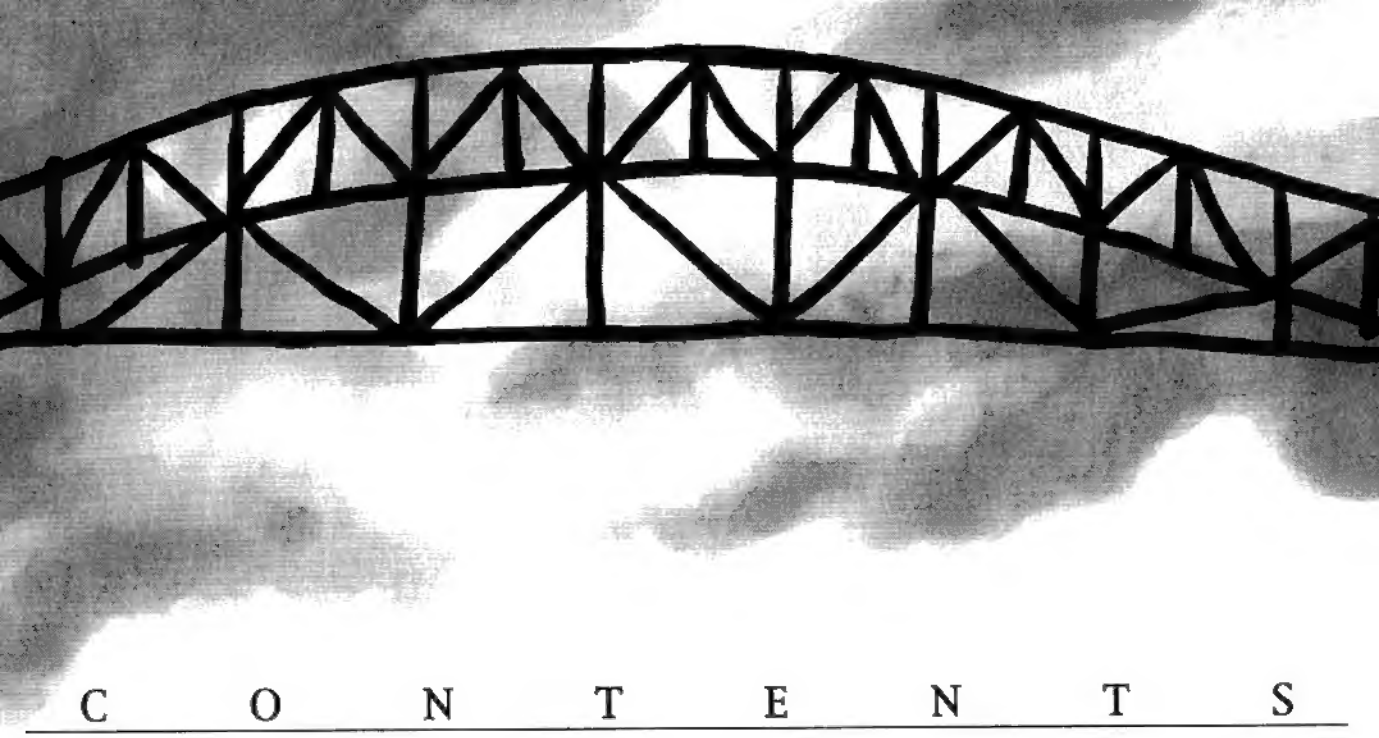
荒川アンダーザブリッジ1
ARAKAWA
UNDER
THE BRIDGE
中村
Hikaru Nakamura
光



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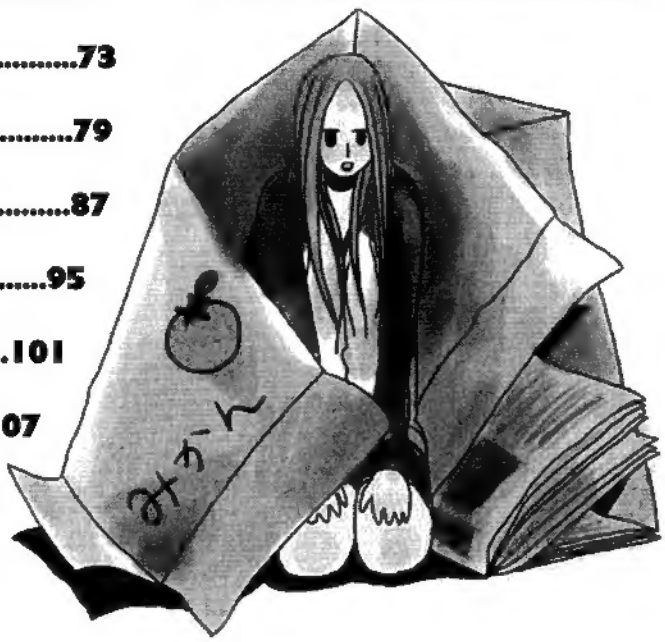
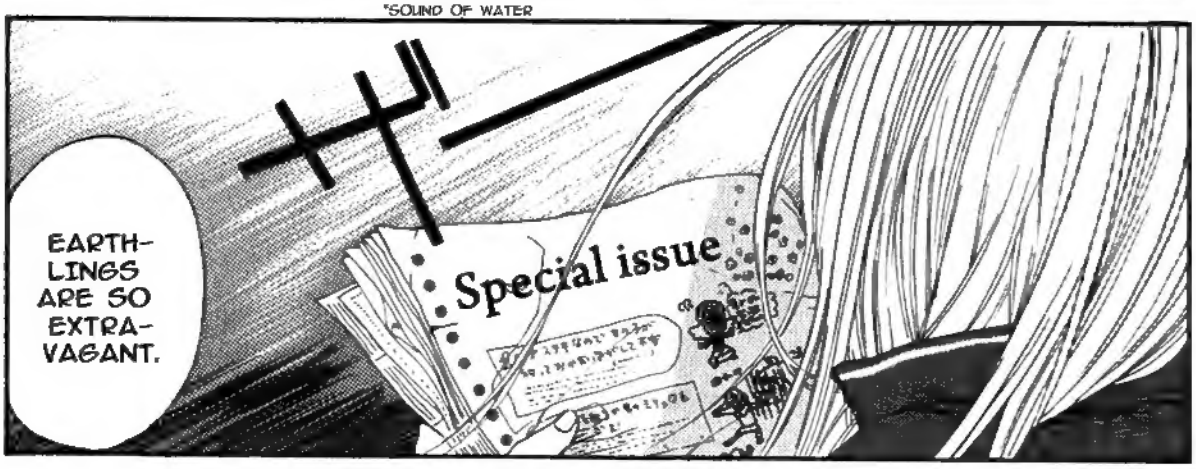
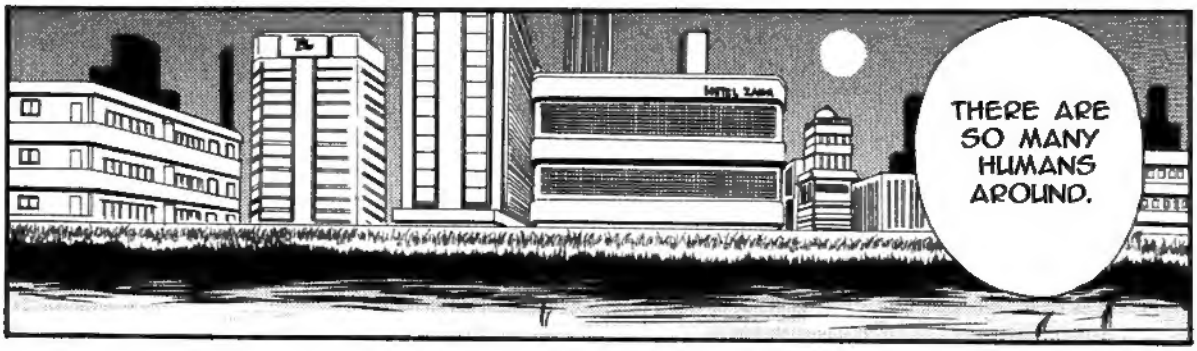


Special issue
1 He is so perfect that girls are afraid to leave him.
DO YOU WANT THE MAN TO BECOME USELESS?!


*SOUND OF WATER
EARTH-LINGS ARE SO EXTRA-VAGANT.
Special issue


THERE ARE SO MANY HUMANS AROUND.

STILL, THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON THEY WANT TO POSSESS.
WHY IS IT SO, I WONDER?

CHAPTER 1. THE MAN WHO CAN'T BE INDEBTED TO ANYONE

MY NAME IS ICHI-NOMIYA KOU.
I'M AN HEIR OF ICHINOMIYA COMPANY,
THE WORLD'S TOP CORPORATION.
IN OTHER WORDS,

I WAS BORN
TO BE ONE OF THE ELITE.

THIS IS THE FIRST PRACTICE FOR ME TO PREPARE TO INHERIT THE COMPANY.
THE REASON IS STATED IN ICHINOMIYA FAMILY'S MOTTO:

I HAVE PASSED EXAMS IN THE TOKYO UNIVERSITY WITH EXCELLENT RESULTS.
I PAY EVERY-THING, BE IT TUITION FEE OR MANSION RENT,
FROM MY OWN EARNINGS, WITHOUT RELYING ON MY PARENTS.

MY NECKTIE IS ALSO THE SYMBOL OF THIS PRINCIPLE.
IT IS THE HEIRLOOM PASSED GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TO THE ELDEST SON OF ICHINOMIYA FAMILY.

ONE MUST NOT BE INDEB-TED TO OTHER PEO-PLE.

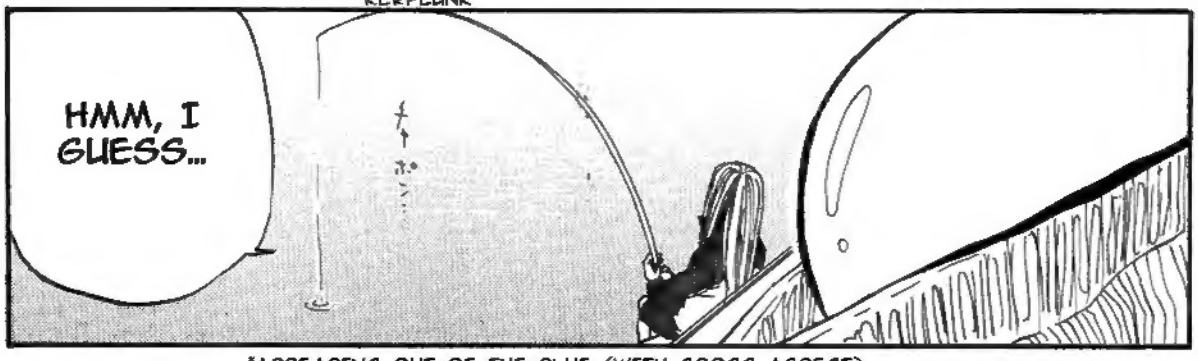
...THIS SITUATION.

NOT THAT I'M BOTHERED AT ALL.
THEY HUNG THEM IN THAT PLACE AND RAN AWAY,
MOREOVER, *THEY* ARE NOW INDEBTED TO ME BECAUSE I DIDN'T GET MAD AT THEM.

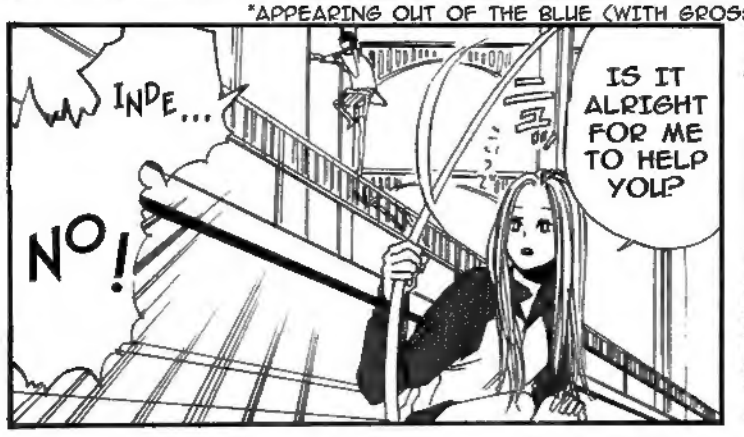
HEY.
ISN'T...
...YOUR ASS FREEZING OFF?
NOT AT ALL.
SOMEONE WAS AROUND...
*SLAPPING
I JUST NEED TO GET MY TROUSERS BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
IF THIS WOMAN GETS THE WRONG IDEA AND SCREAMS...
CALM DOWN!
I FEEL QUITE WARM.
NO WORRIES THEN.
*TURNING AWAY

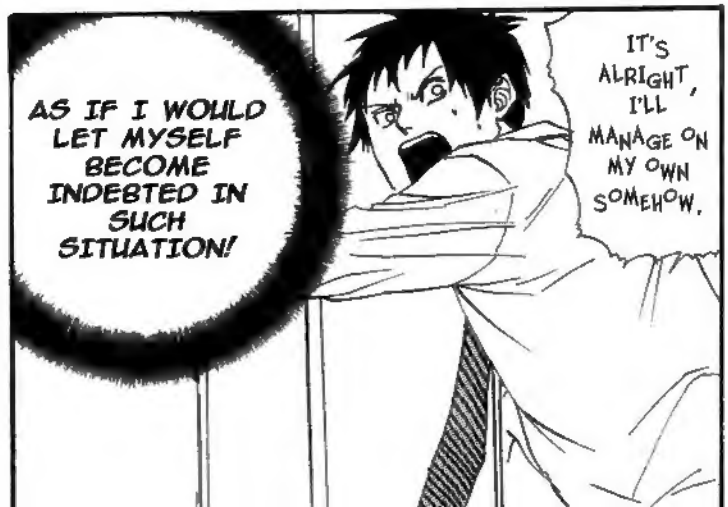
*KERPLUNK

*PURIN

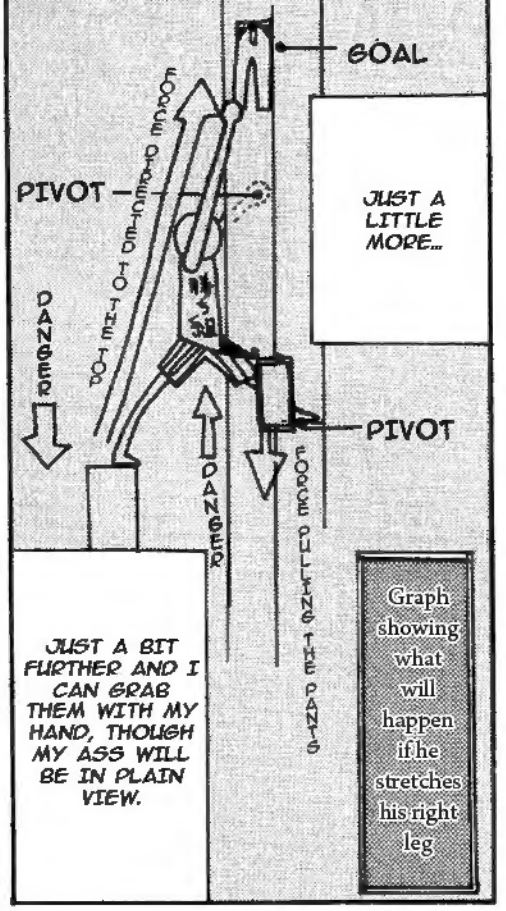


*APPEARING OUT OF THE BLUE (WITH GROSS ASPECT)





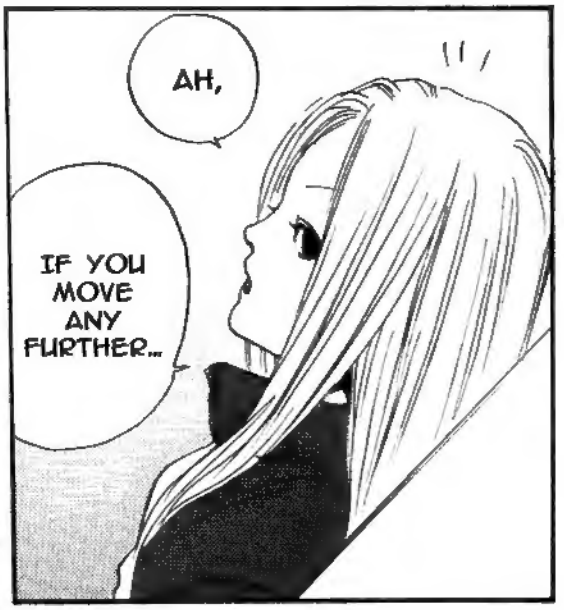
OBJECTION!
IF SHE DIDN'T WANT TO SEE IT, SHE COULD JUST TURN HER HEAD AWAY!
EVEN IF IT COMES TO THE LEGAL ACTION...
...I'LL COPE WITH IT!
I ADVANCE A CLAIM AGAINST THE BRATS!


GOAL
PIVOT
FORCE DIRECTED TO THE TOP
JUST A LITTLE MORE...
DANGER
PIVOT
DANGER
FORCE PULLING THE PANTS
JUST A BIT FURTHER AND I CAN GRAB THEM WITH MY HAND, THOUGH MY ASS WILL BE IN PLAIN VIEW.
Graph showing what will happen if he stretches his right leg

FOR THE SAKE OF INHERITING THE COMPANY!
ONE MUSTN'T BE INDEBTED TO OTHER PEOPLE!

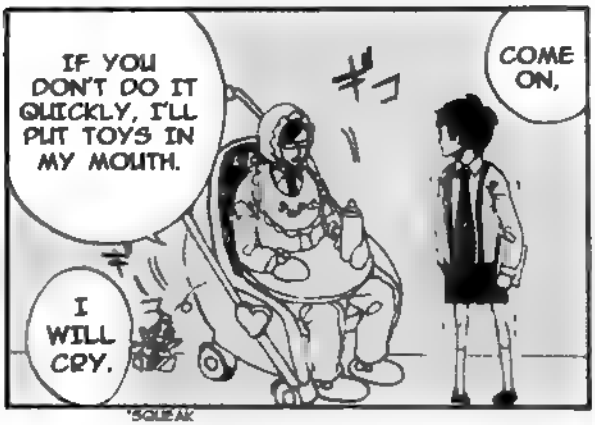
*CRUNCHING
WITH MY OWN STRENGTH... !!

I MUSTN'T BECOME INDEBTED TO ANYONE!
PLEASE, JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!


AH,
IF YOU MOVE ANY FURTHER...

SINCE I WAS ONE YEAR OLD.
I WAS BROUGHT UP...
...IN SUCH WAY.

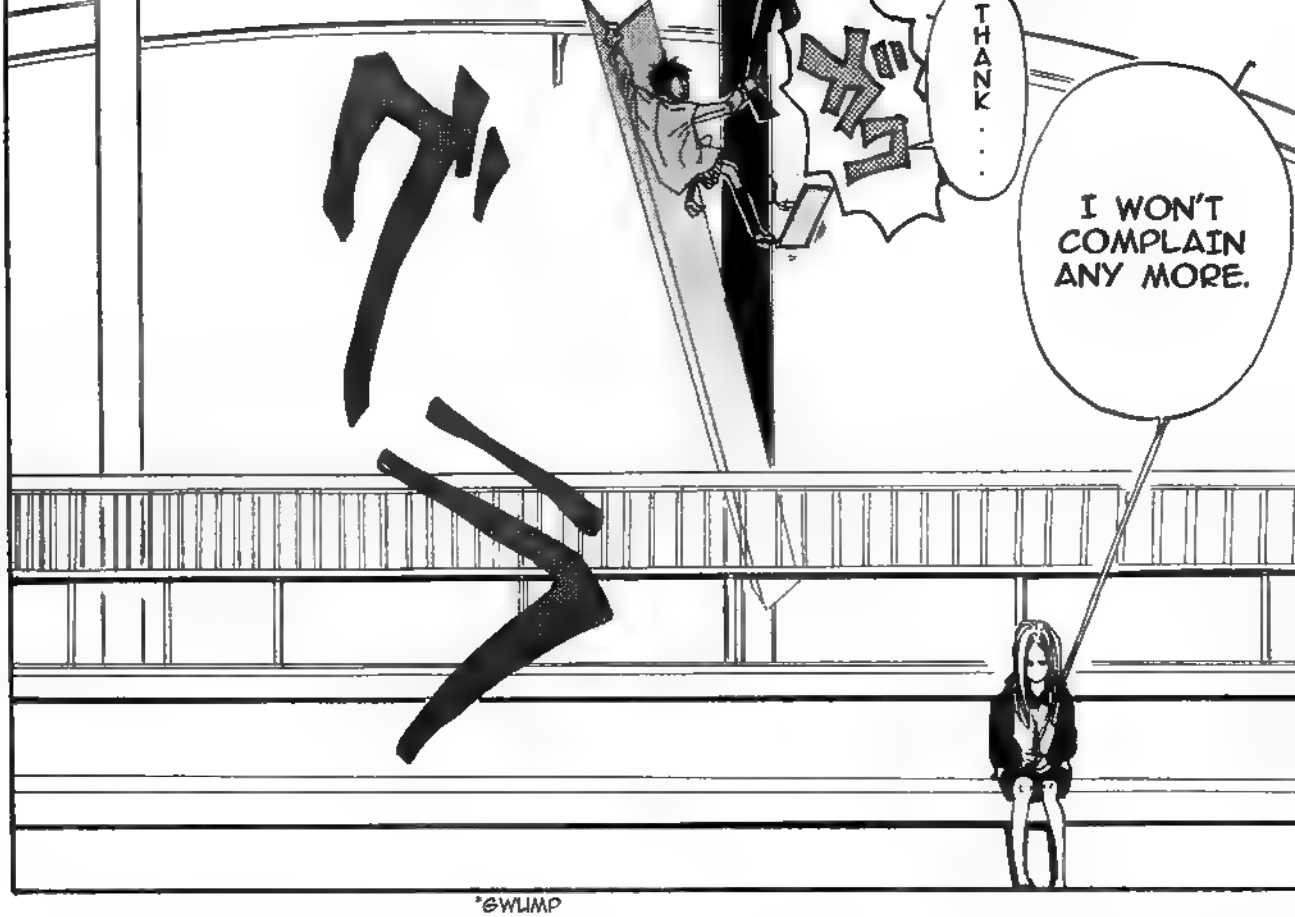
COME HERE!
KOU!
WHEN I WAS THREE YEARS OLD.
I WAS TAUGHT TO DEAL WITH MY PERSONAL ISSUES ON MY OWN.


IF YOU DON'T DO IT QUICKLY, I'LL PUT TOYS IN MY MOUTH.
COME ON.
I WILL CRY.
*SQUEAK

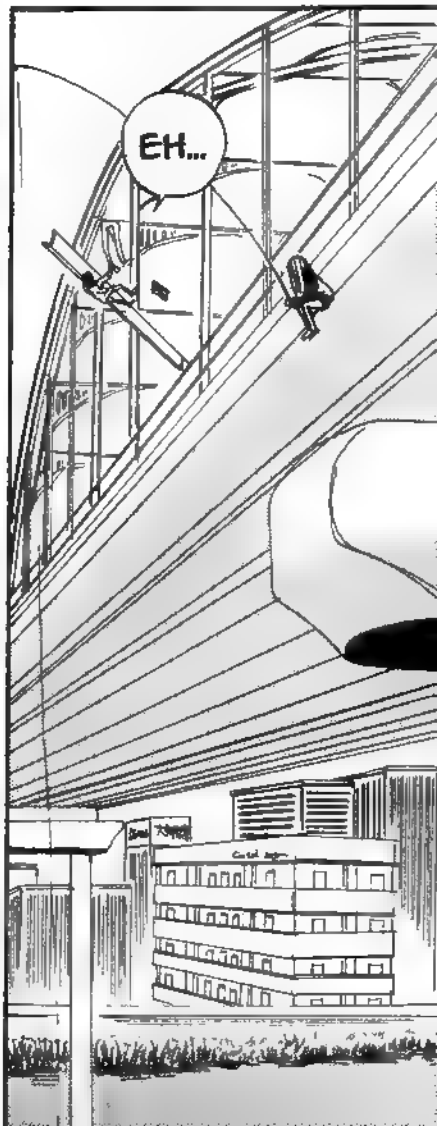
IT WAS SO DIFFICULT TO MAKE HIM BURP.
I SEE...

...THE DEBT THAT YOU OWE YOUR FATHER SINCE YOU WERE ONE YEAR OLD.
REPAY IMMEDIATELY.

YOUR ERASER!
YOU-KUN,
WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GRADUATE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
I BEGAN TO REALIZE MYSELF AS THE HEIR.
SORRY
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MY THINGS ON MY OWN.
IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.
IF YOU PUT IT LIKE THIS...
ANYWAY, I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND NOW.



*GWUMP

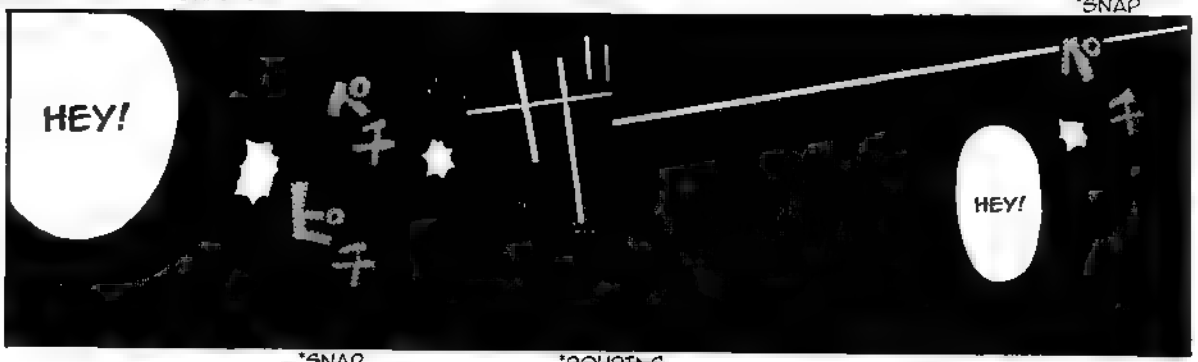


*GLAG
THE IRON POLE THAT FELL WITH ME IS SO HEAVY.
I HAVE TO PUSH IT AWAY.
WHAT HAVE I DONE?!
I CAN'T...
...DO IT ON MY OWN!
AM I GOING TO DIE?
IN SUCH PLACE?
NO WAY!

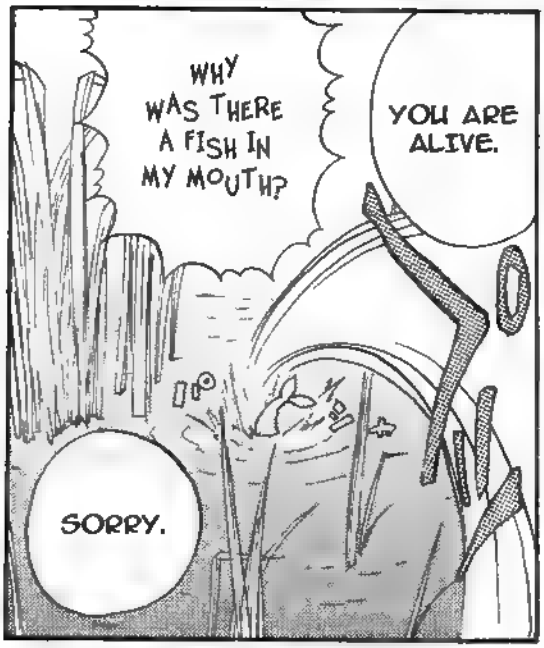
SOMEBODY...
CHOKE
*GLAG
DIE...

*POURING

*SNAP

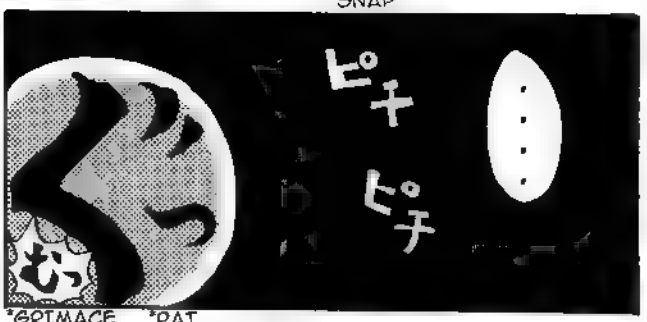


*SNAP



*POURING

*SNAP



*GRIMACE *PAT

*SNAP

YOU
OWE ME NOW.

WH...

*THROWING UP

...WAS THE ENORMOUS DEBT OF HAVING MY LIFE SAVED BY SOMEONE.
THE FIRST DEBT IN MY LIFE...
ARE YOU AL-RIGHT?
WHAAA AAAAA AAAAA AAT?

I HAVE LIVED TWENTY YEARS BELIEVING THAT I MUSTN'T BECOME INDEBTED TO OTHER PEOPLE.
MY NAME IS ICHINOMIYA KOU.

I HAVE TO BECOME SUITABLE TO SUCCEED THE COMPANY.
THAT'S BECAUSE I WILL BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF ICHINO-MIYA...
...COM-PANY.

WHY
DID IT HAPPEN NOW?!

WITH THIS THOUGHT, I HAVE ALWAYS LIVED..
..WITHOUT ASKING ANYONE FOR EVEN TRIVIAL FAVORS, AND STILL..

BY THIS GIRL?!
WHY WAS MY LIFE SAVED
WANNA EAT?
FL
AP

SFX: FLAP

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS ALREADY!
ENOUGH!
I'VE JUST CAUGHT IT.

THAT FROM NOW ON...
SHE SAVED MY LIFE, AND THIS MEANS,

HMPH
DAMN IT! WHAT SHOULD I DO?

LAZILY!
IT'S ALL THA-NKS TO HER!
IF I INHE-RIT THE COMPANY AND SIT IN DIRE-CTOR'S CHAIR
FRIVOLOUS!
IT'S THANKS TO HER.
IF I EAT A DELI-CIOUS CAKE,
HARD! IT'S SO HARD! HAVING A LIFE-SAVIOR
FROM NOW ON, ALL MY LIFE WILL BE THANKS TO THIS GIRL!
SFX: STANDING UP STRAIGHT
WAIT A MOMENT, I'LL BRING A TOWEL FROM MY HOUSE.
EH?
AREN'T YOU SOAKED TO THE SKIN?
BY THE WAY,
WHAT IN THE WORLD SHOULD I DO TO REPAY THIS DEBT?
YOU DON'T NEED TO TAKE THE TROUBLE OF GOING ALL THE WAY...

TO ... YOUR HOUSE...

HOUSE?

I SEE..
NO.
DO YOU NEED TO USE MY BED?
I COVERED MY BED WITH THE TOWEL.

AH.
HERE IT IS.

IT'S CERTA-INLY..
ISN'T IT DREADFUL? A GIRL LIVING ALL ALONE IN SUCH PLACE.
SHE IS A PAU-PER.

DAMPNESS AND NOISE HERE ARE PROBABLY UNBEARABLE.
REA-LLY?
OH MY! ISN'T IT TERRIBLE TO LIVE IN SUCH A HOUSE?
IS IT SO?
A CHANCE TO REPAY MY DEBT!

SO NOW I HAVE ABOUT 800 MILLION I CAN SPEND FREELY.
THE OTHER DAY MY SHARES WENT UP,

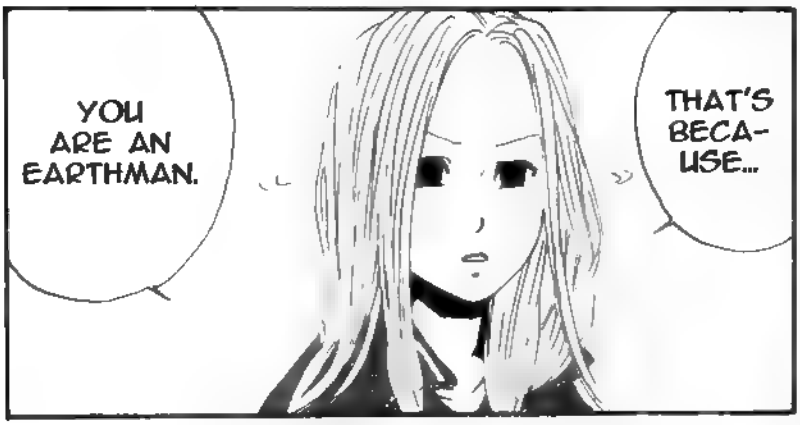
IT'S DEFINITELY A THING SHE WANTS DESPE-RATELY.
THIS WAY, MY DEBT WILL BE...

WOULD BE GLAD TO GIVE YOU A HOUSE AS A PRESENT.
IT'S OVER!

IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND TO ACCEPT IT, I

I DON'T NEED IT.

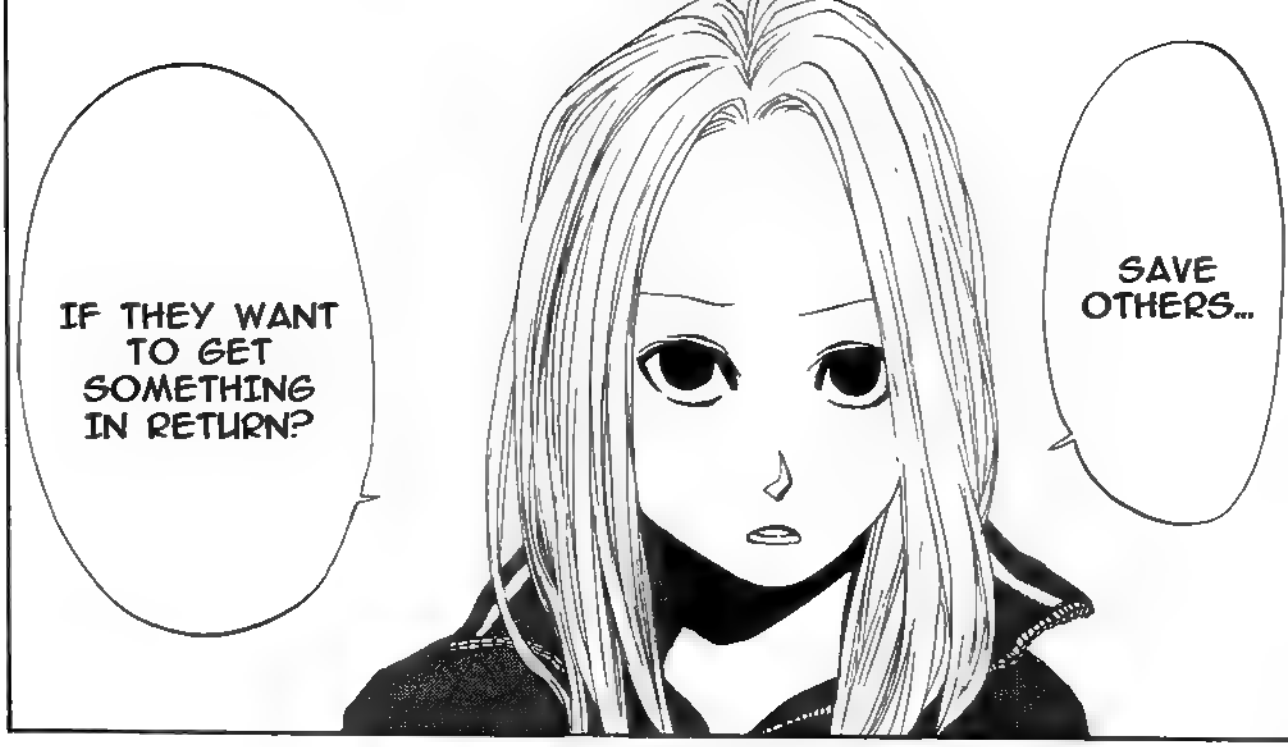
HM?

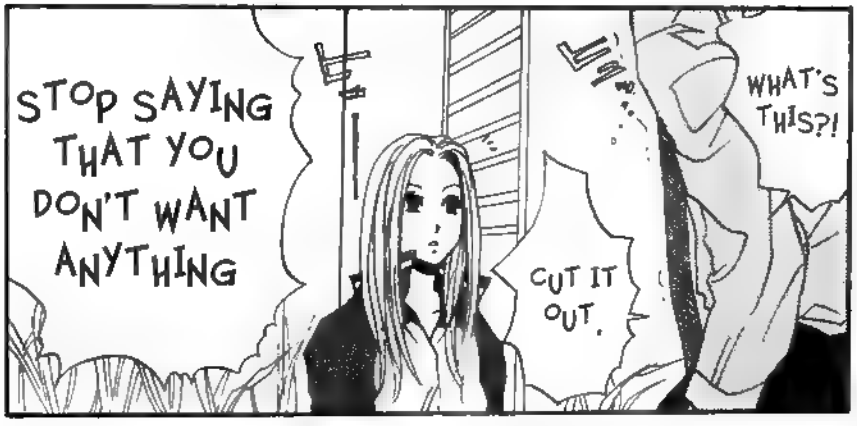

YOU ARE AN EARTHMAN.
THAT'S BECA-USE...

AND I'M A VENU-SIAN.

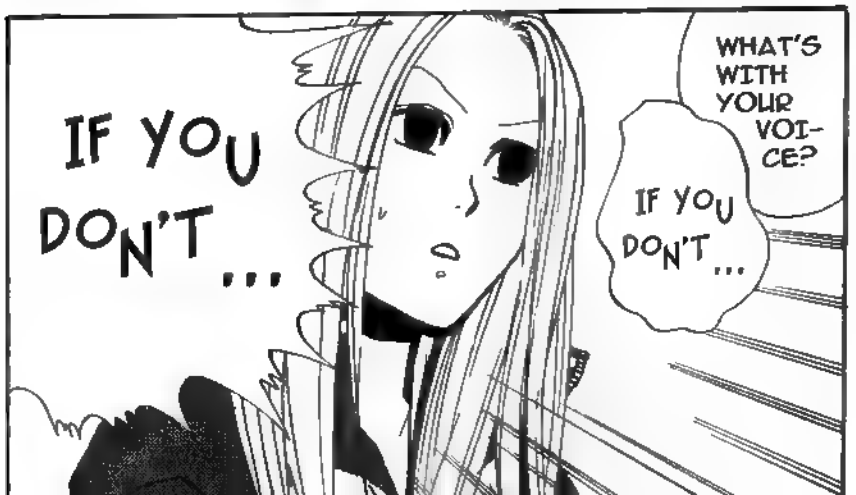
LOOK, ISN'T IT COLD? HERE...
IT'S NOT COLD.
IT IS! TO TELL THE TRUTH, EVEN IN THESE CLOTHES, I...
AH.

I FISH IN THE RIVER.
AND FOOD?
OH MY GOSH! SHE IS INSANE.
AAAAA
BECAUSE I'M A VENUSIAN,
»WHAT« ?
I'M TRYING TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR SAVING ME.
DO PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THEN, IS THERE ANYTHING BOTHERING YOU?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IF SHE IS AN IDIOT, SHE IS SERIOUS SAYING SHE DOESN'T WANT IT.
HEY
REALLY.


IF THEY WANT TO GET SOMETHING IN RETURN?
SAVE OTHERS...

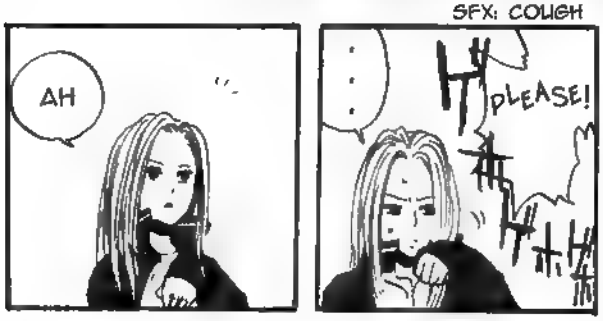

STOP SAYING THAT YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING
CUT IT OUT.
WHAT'S THIS?!

WHA...


IF YOU DON'T...
IF YOU DON'T...
WHAT'S WITH YOUR VOICE?

SFX: COLD WIND

SFX: COUGH

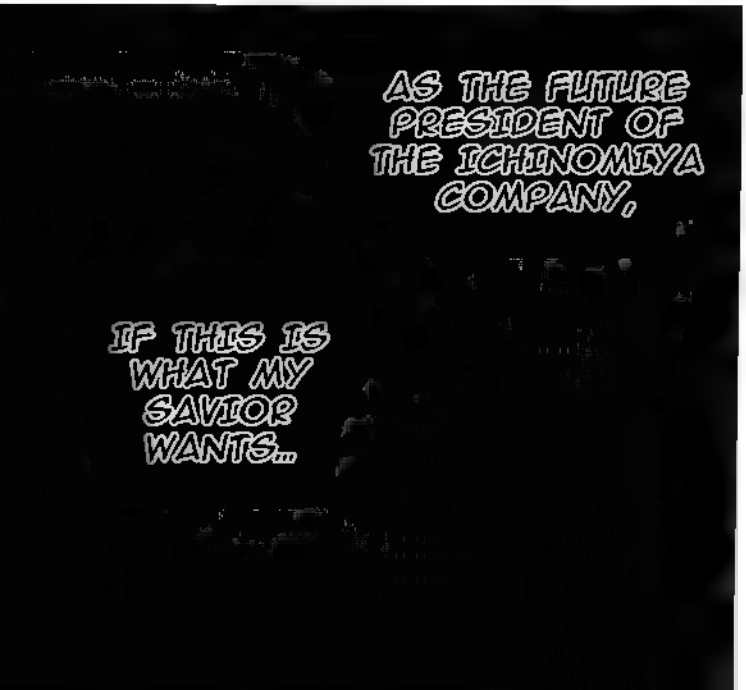


SFX: SHAKING

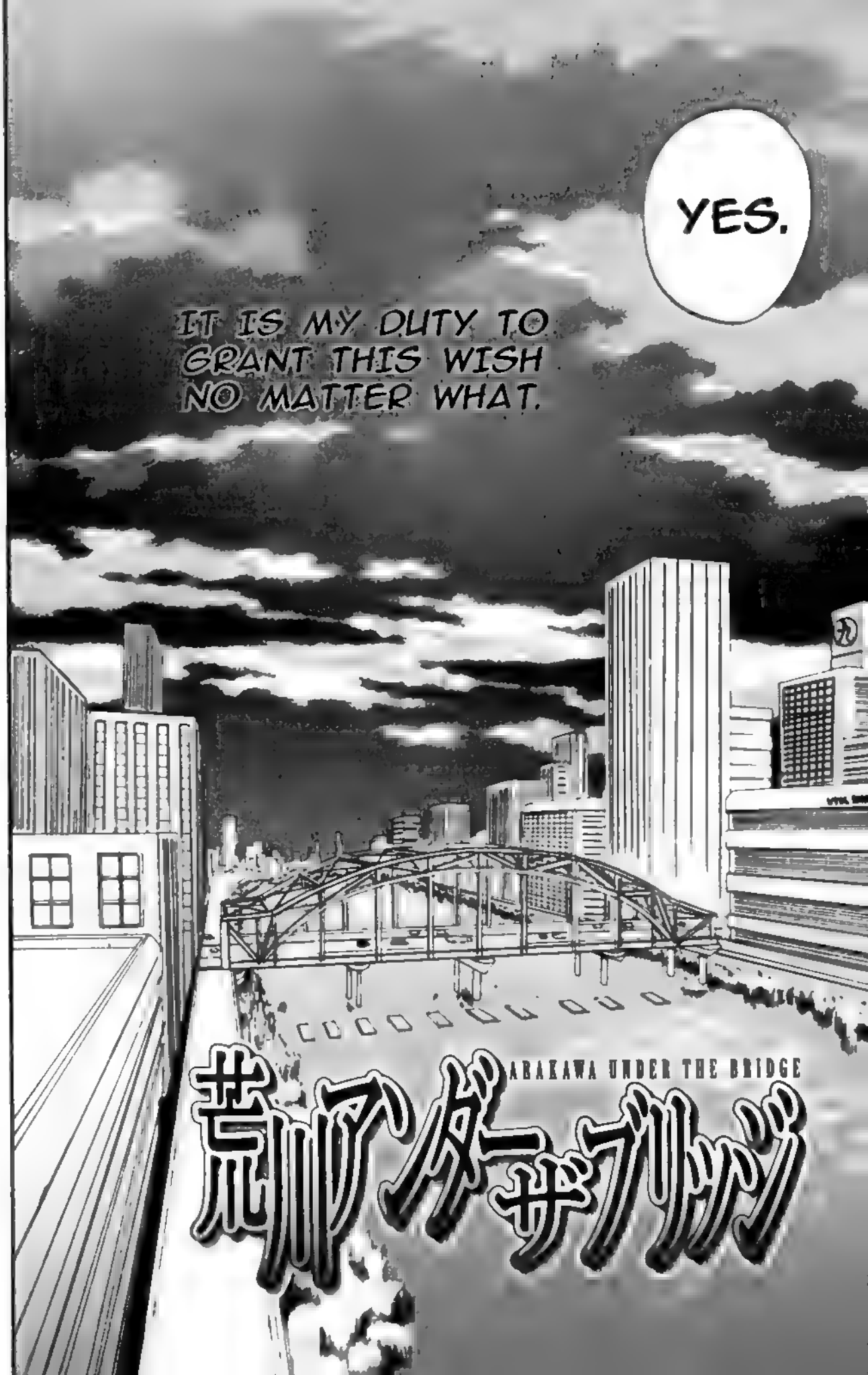
...FALL IN LOVE WITH ME?
A BRIDGE ON A BIG PLANET...
HUH?
...OUR LOVE STORY BEGAN.
YOU'LL RECOVER, WON'T YOU?
COUGH
WHAT!?
-THIS IS THE PLACE WHE-RE-

"WILL YOU
FALL IN LOVE
WITH ME?"
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

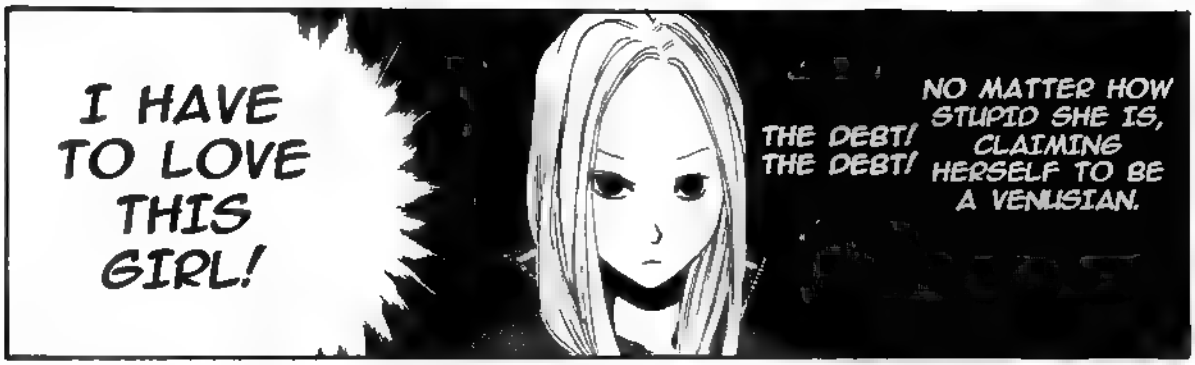
PROPOSED THIS TO ME WHEN I ASKED HOW I COULD REPAY MY DEBT.
THE GIRL WHO SAVED ME WHEN I WAS DROWNING IN THE RIVER.


AS THE FUTURE PRESIDENT OF THE ICHINOMIYA COMPANY,
IF THIS IS WHAT MY SAVIOR WANTS...

"ONE MUSTN'T BE INDEBTED TO OTHER PEOPLE"
THE RULES OF THE ICHINOMIYA CLAN ARE ABSOLUTE.


YES.
IT IS MY DUTY TO GRANT THIS WISH NO MATTER WHAT.
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

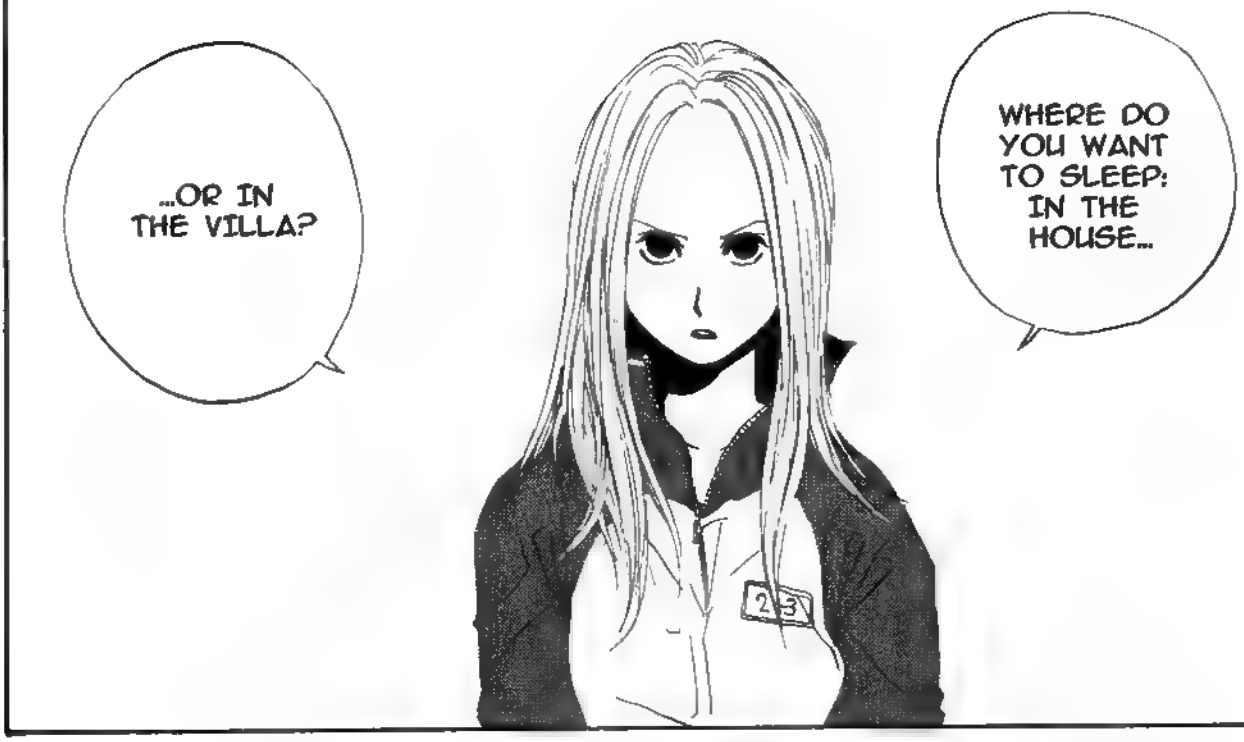
ICHINOMIYA KOU NEVER GOES BACK ON HIS WORDS.


I HAVE TO LOVE THIS GIRL!
THE DEBT! THE DEBT!
NO MATTER HOW STUPID SHE IS, CLAIMING HERSELF TO BE A VENUSIAN.

I SEE.
FOR THE TIME BEING, I HAVE TO RETURN HOME.
IT'S EXTREMELY COLD.

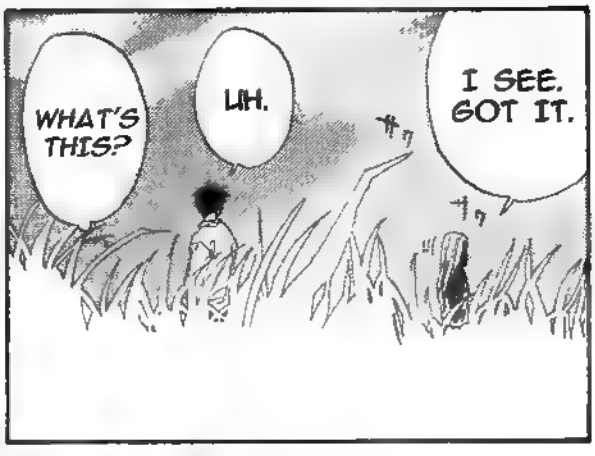
STARTING FROM TOMORROW!

YES?
THEN, I WAN TO MAKE SURE OF ONE THING.


WHERE DO YOU WANT TO SLEEP: IN THE HOUSE...
...OR IN THE VILLA?

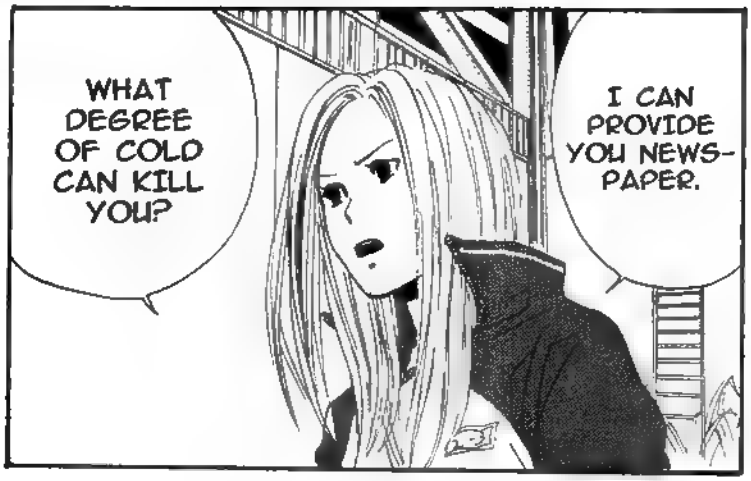
I'M GOING TO SLEEP IN MY HOUSE.
I DON'T HAVE A VILLA, YOU KNOW.
WHERE, YOU SAY...

WHAT SHOULD I TALK WITH HER ABOUT WHEN WE MEET NEXT TIME?
I DON'T GET WHAT SHE IS THINKING ABOUT AT ALL.


WHAT'S THIS?
HH.
I SEE. GOT IT.

HEY!
I'LL THINK IT OVER AT HOME TONIGHT.

SENGOKU
HERE'S A PILLOW.
USE IT!


WHAT DEGREE OF COLD CAN KILL YOU?
I CAN PROVIDE YOU NEWS-PAPER.

SORRY, BUT I DON'T HAVE A FUTON.

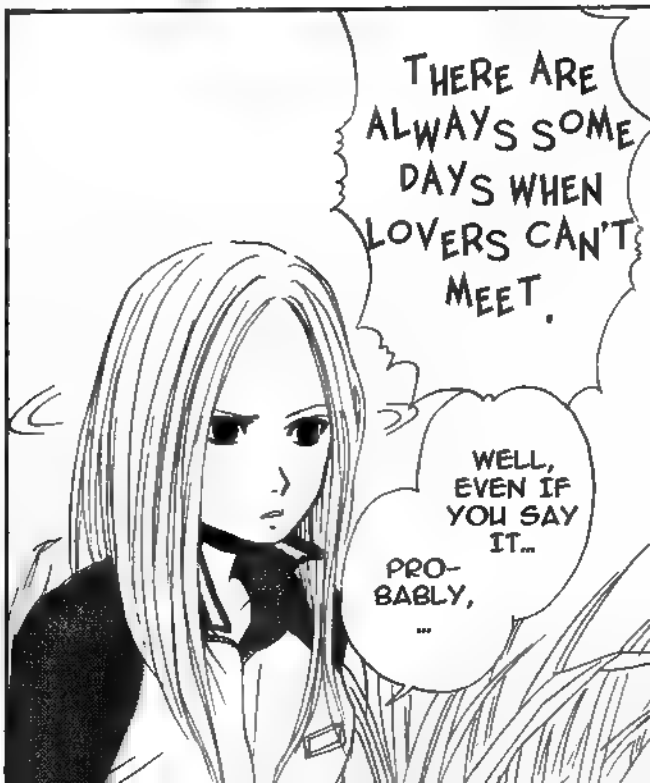
PLEASE, DON'T DIE IN MY HOUSE.
STOP, WAIT A MOMENT.

MAYBE I'M JUST IMAGINING IT, BUT,
BY SOME CHANCE, ...

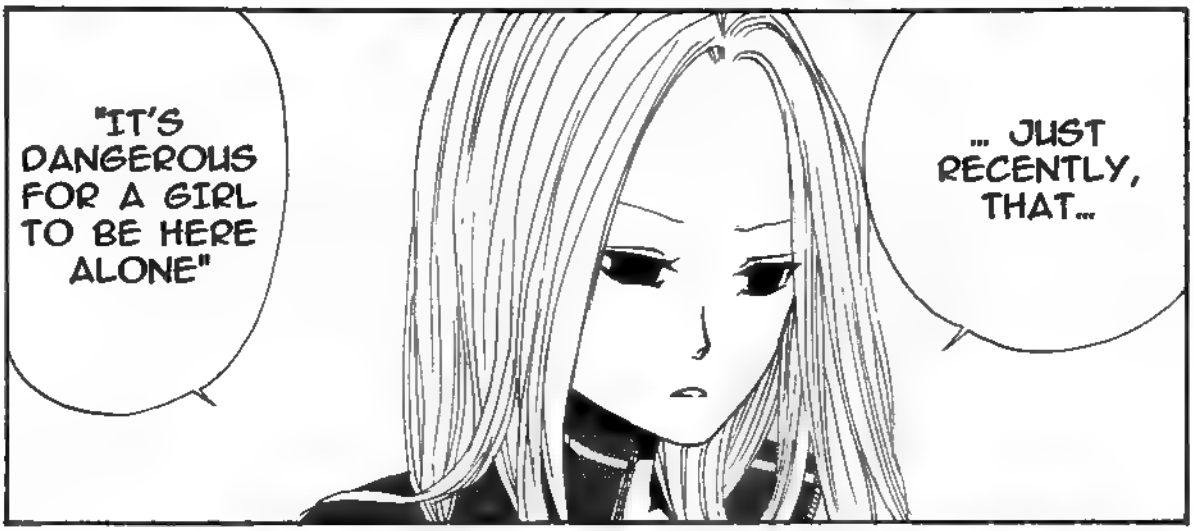
BUT OF COURSE!
DO YOU CONSIDER THAT I'M GOING TO LIVE HERE?

IT ISN'T LIKE WE ARE MARRYING!
IS IT SO?
DON'T LOVERS ALWAYS STAY TOGETHER?

ARE YOU A CAT OR WHAT?!
IF I DON'T SEE YOU FOR ONE DAY,
I'LL COMPLETELY FORGET ABOUT YOU


THERE ARE ALWAYS SOME DAYS WHEN LOVERS CAN'T MEET.
WELL, EVEN IF YOU SAY IT...
PRO-BABLY, ...

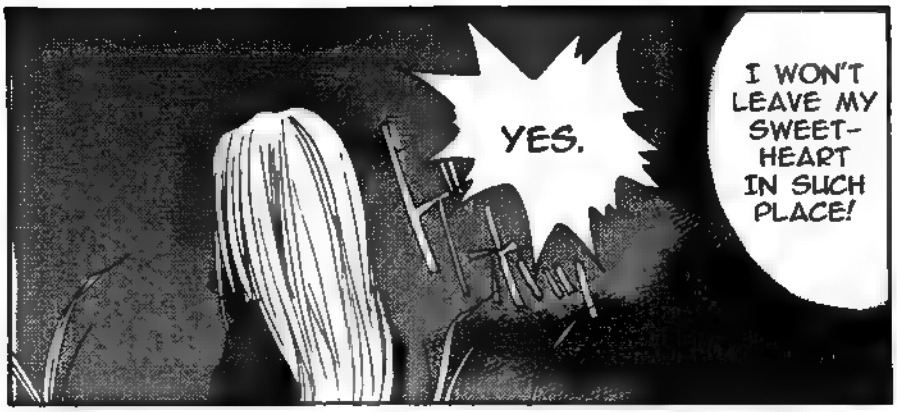
DIDN'T YOU SAY...
SO, LET ME GO ...
I'LL VISIT YOU AS OFTEN AS I CAN!


"IT'S DANGEROUS FOR A GIRL TO BE HERE ALONE"
... JUST RECENTLY, THAT...

WAIT...
IF YOU MEET ME AGAIN...
OH, NEVER MIND.

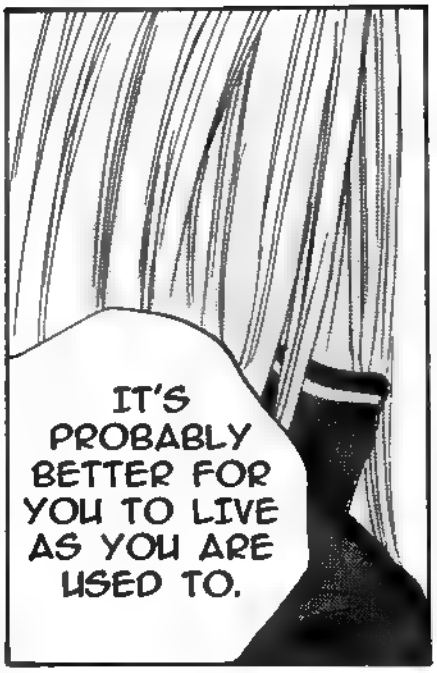
EH...

IF A PERSON FORM ICHINOMIYA FAMILY DOESN'T REPAY HIS DEBT TO SOMEBODY, THEY FEEL A GREAT STRESS AND HAVE ASTHMA ATTACKS.
LET ME EX-PLAIN!
WAIT!


I WON'T LEAVE MY SWEET-HEART IN SUCH PLACE!
YES.

I'M OKAY WITH A VILLA!

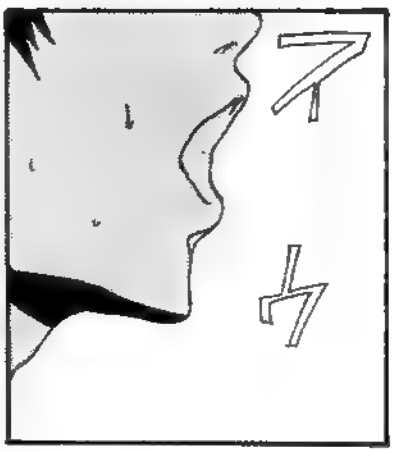
IF YOU TELL ME TO MOVE TO A NEW PLACE,
I CHOOSE THE VILLA.

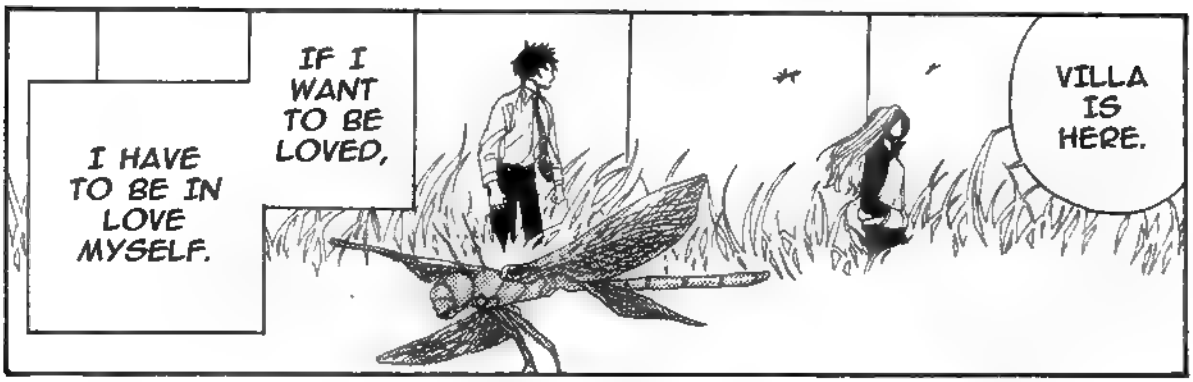

IT'S PROBABLY BETTER FOR YOU TO LIVE AS YOU ARE USED TO.

UH
I GET IT.
IF MY LOVE IS GENUINE.

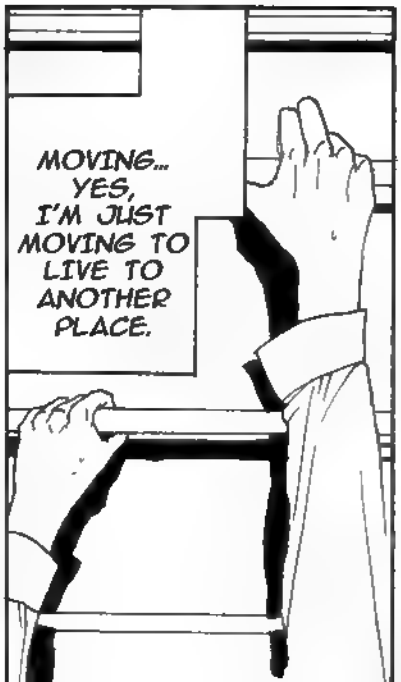
I SEE.

IT'S OKAY NOW.

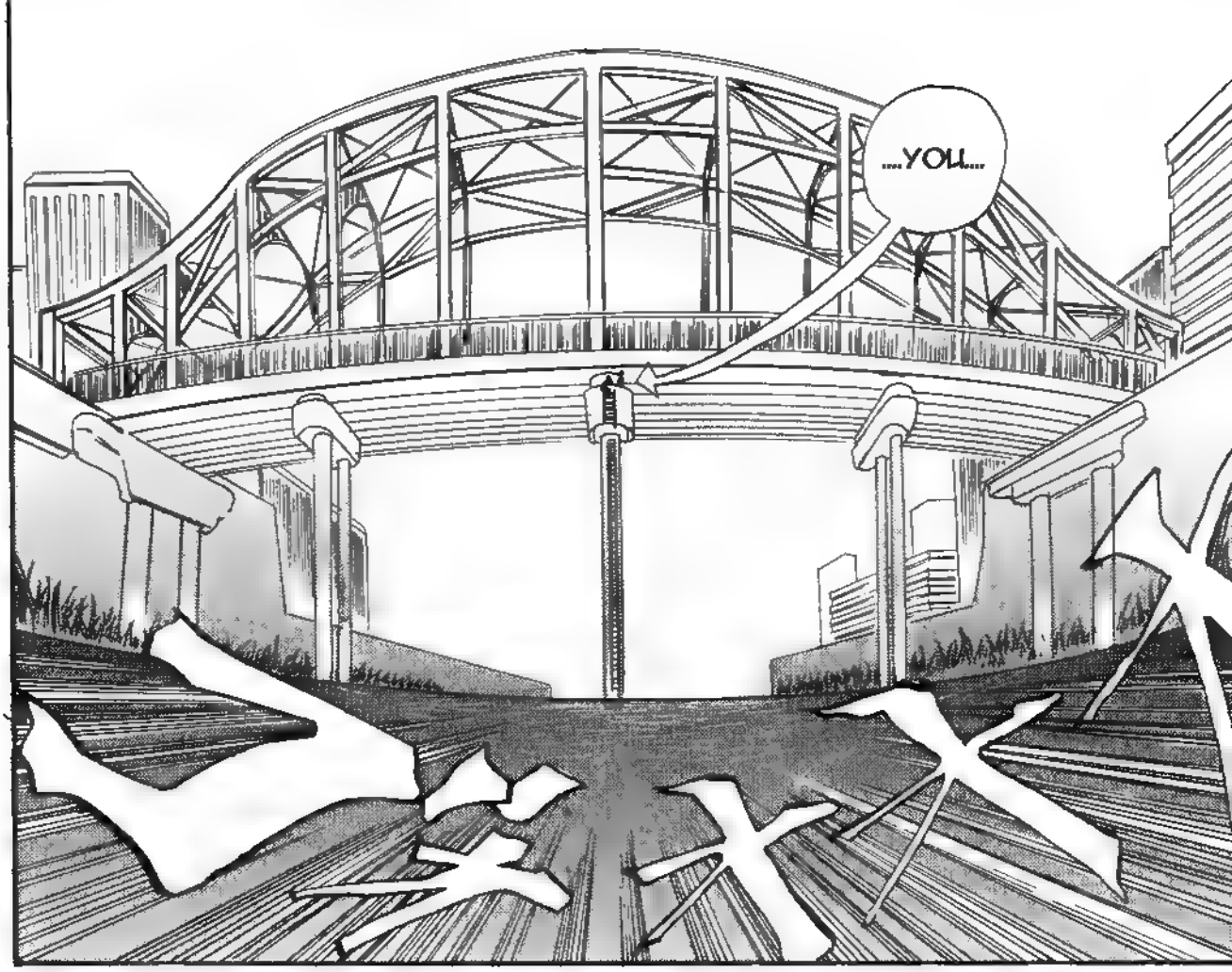


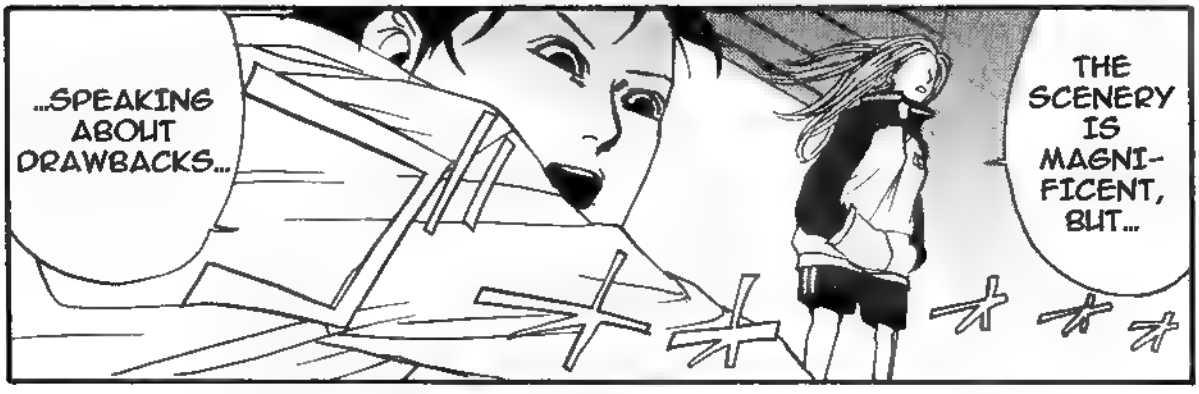

I HAVE TO BE IN LOVE MYSELF.
IF I WANT TO BE LOVED,
VILLA IS HERE.

IF I THINK THIS WAY, I WON'T HESITATE AT ALL...
IT'S HERE.
THANK....


MOVING... YES, I'M JUST MOVING TO LIVE TO ANOTHER PLACE.

EVEN THOUGH SHE SAVED MY LIFE, WHY AM I HESITATING?


....YOU....


...SPEAKING ABOUT DRAWBACKS...
THE SCENERY IS MAGNI-FICENT, BUT...

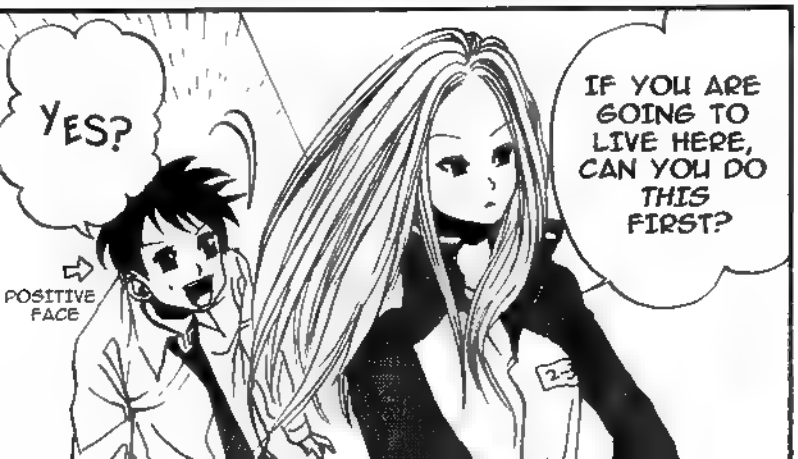
I'LL DIE IF I SLEEP HERE!
THE FLOOR IS SORTA HARD, AND IT'S NOT VERY CONVENIENT TO SLEEP...

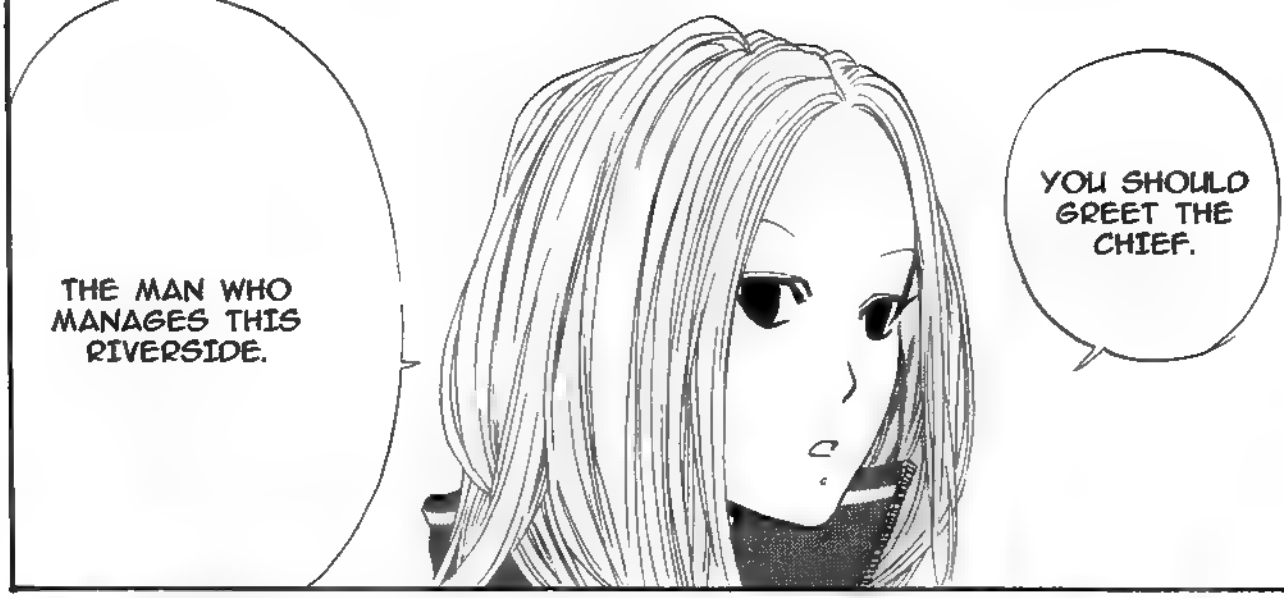
STARTING WITH THIS DAY, I LIVE UNDER THE BRIDGE.
SHOULD I TIE MYSELF WITH A ROPE BEFORE GOING TO SLEEP?
THE WIND IS STRONG HERE.
CAN I PLUG IN MY COMPUTER HERE?
MY NAME IS ICHINO-MIYA KOU.

I'LL BRING A NEW SOFA TOMORROW...
I MISS MY MANSION IN KANDA THAT I BOUGHT LAST YEAR.

AH, ONE MORE THING...
I SHOULDN'T BE DEPRESSED AND BURST INTO TEARS!
I SHOULD FIND SOMETHING POSITIVE!

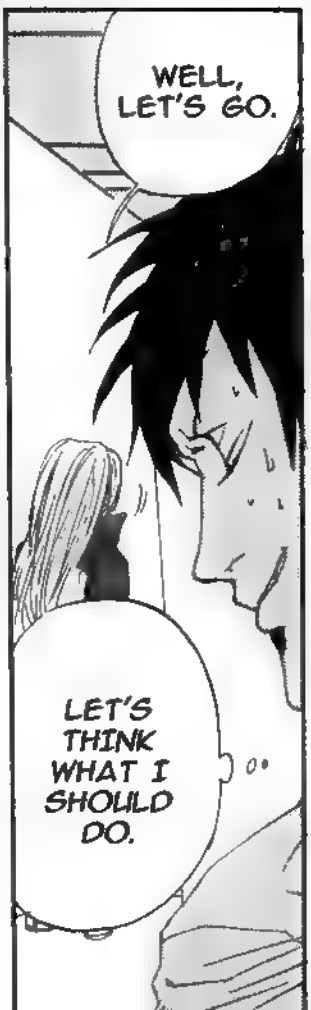
IT'S USELESS! IT'S USELESS!
I MUSTN'T TURN AWAY FROM REALITY!

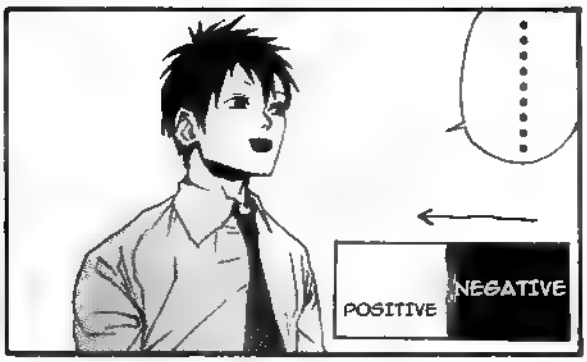

YES?
POSITIVE FACE
IF YOU ARE GOING TO LIVE HERE, CAN YOU DO THIS FIRST?


THE MAN WHO MANAGES THIS RIVERSIDE.
YOU SHOULD GREET THE CHIEF.

CHIEF?

THIS MEANS THAT...


WELL, LET'S GO.
LET'S THINK WHAT I SHOULD DO.

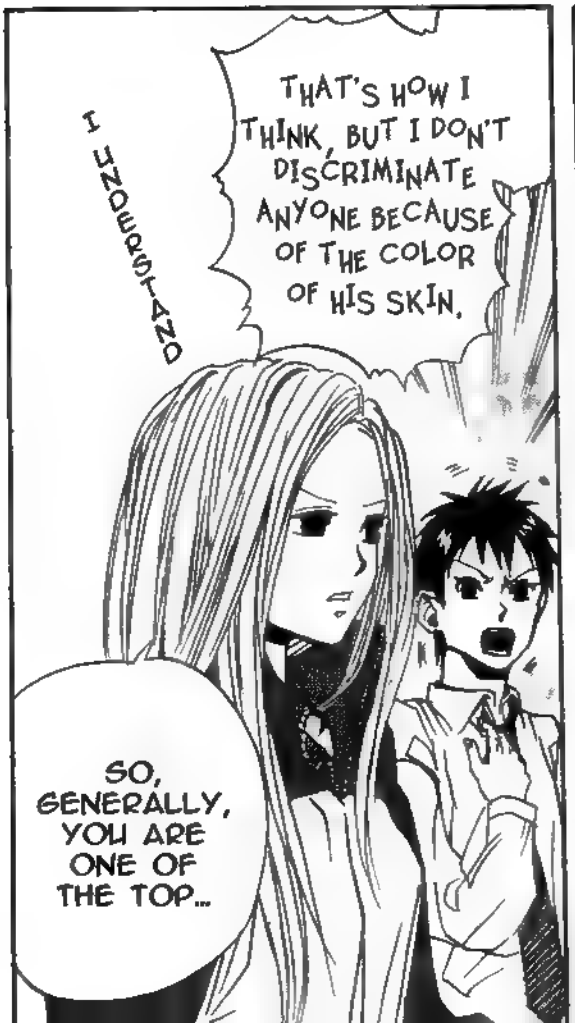

.....
POSITIVE
NEGATIVE

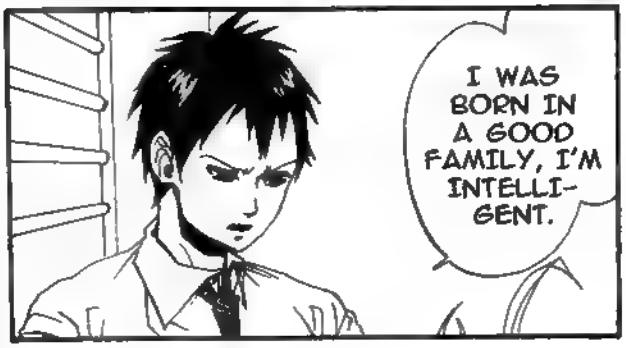
OH, HEADMAN?
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME! GREETING IS MY STRONG POINT!
POSITIVE

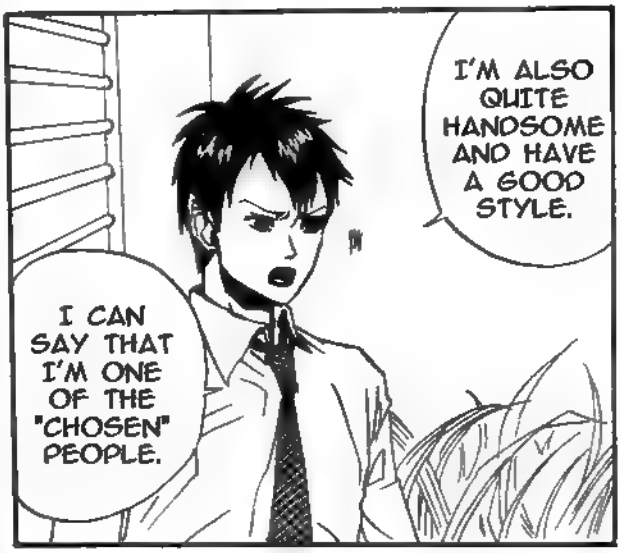
HEY.
...IT'S PROBABLY EASIER THAN DISCUSSING ANYTHING WITH THIS GIRL.
...NEGOTIATING WITH HOMELESS PEOPLE, BUT...
...THIS GIRL IS NOT THE ONLY ONE LIVING AT THIS RIVERSIDE.
I'M SAVED!
I HAVE NO EXPERIENCE OF...
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS IDIOT...
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE? ...HIS TRAITS?
TRAITS?
MAYBE, THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN?
A FOREIGNER?
YOU KNOW...
PEOPLE AROUND SAY DIFFERENT THINGS.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THEM.

NO WAY!
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HIM?

...AM A SPECIAL CASE.
I...

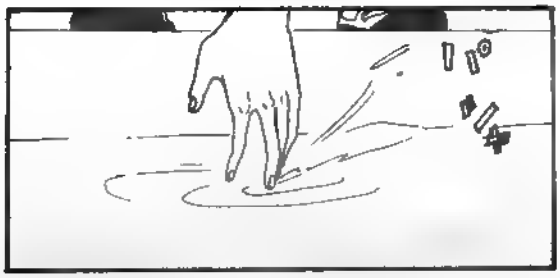

I JZOWRSI-AZO
THAT'S HOW I THINK, BUT I DON'T DISCRIMINATE ANYONE BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN.
SO, GENERALLY, YOU ARE ONE OF THE TOP...


I WAS BORN IN A GOOD FAMILY, I'M INTELLI-GENT.


I'M ALSO QUITE HANDSOME AND HAVE A GOOD STYLE.
I CAN SAY THAT I'M ONE OF THE "CHOSEN" PEOPLE.

OKAY.
WAIT A MINUTE.
...THEN, IT'LL BE EASY TO SUMMON HIM.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
SUM-MONING HIM.



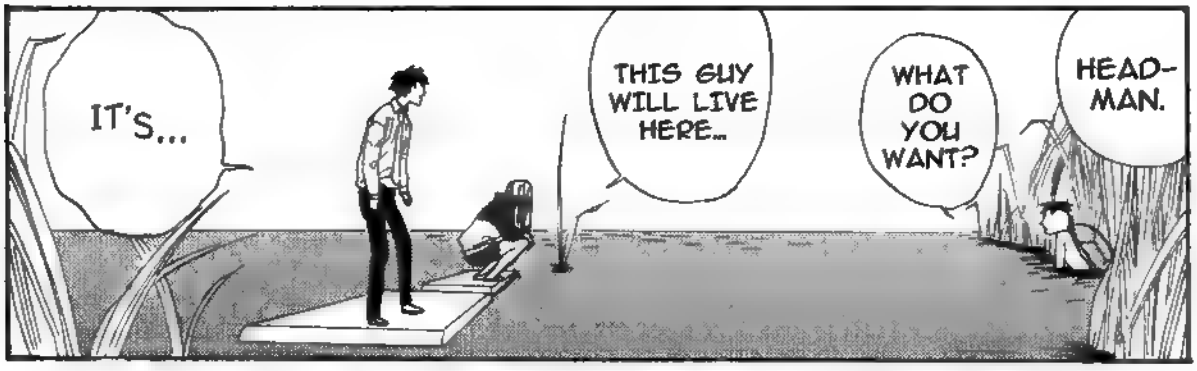
ERRR...

OH NO, I'M NOT PREPARED TO SUCH A....
NO WAY!

WHO'D NOTICE THIS WAY OF SUMMO-NING...
OH, HEADMAN!

ERRR, NO...

DID YOU CALL ME?


IT'S...
THIS GUY WILL LIVE HERE...
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
HEAD-MAN.

IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT...
IT'S GREEN!

A MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE THIS
FOR EXAMPLE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

AND MIGHT HAVE A HABIT TO PICK UP GARBAGE IN A PARK ONCE A WEEK.
OH, IT'S THE MAN WHO PICKS UP GARBAGE HERE!
I'LL TAKE AWAY ALL THE GARBAGE
CAN LIKE BIRDS, TULIPS AND CHILDREN.

THAT'S WHY IT'S USELESS TO TRY JUDGING PEOPLE BY THEIR APPEARANCE.
IT'S...
STILL...

AND A YOUNG MAN WITH A CHARMING SMILE LIKE THIS

I CAN'T DENY THIS POSSIBI-LITY.
CAN BE A MANIAC WHO LIKES CUTTING PEOPLE.

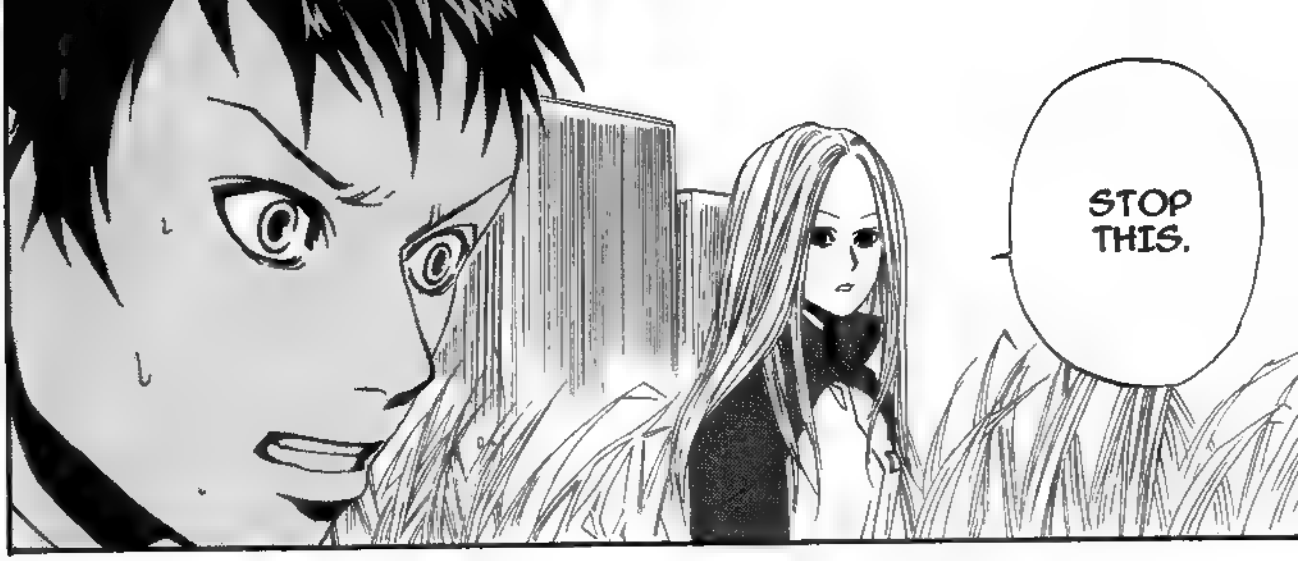
IT'S GREEN!!
THIS TIME I JUST CAN TOLERATE IT
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

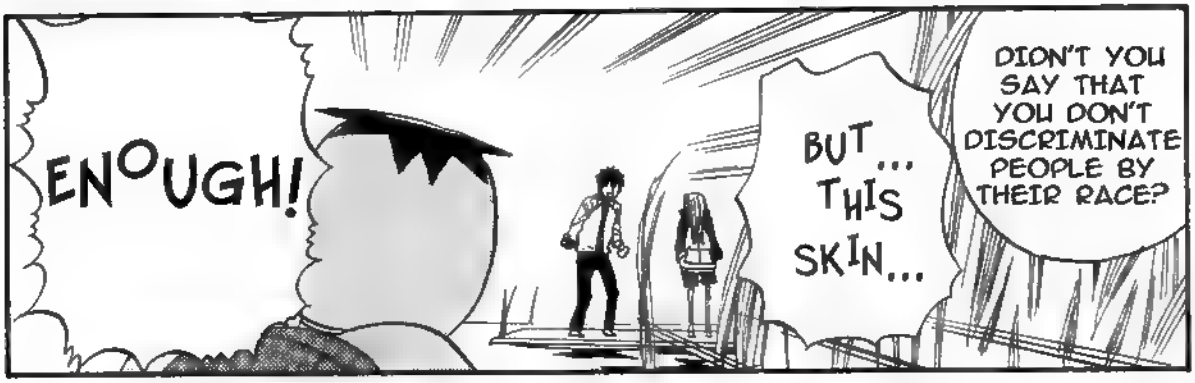
THAT'S WHAT I SAID WHEN I HEARD THAT THE "CHIEF" IN CHARGE OF THE TERRITORY UNDER THE BRIDGE HAS A DIFFERENT COLOR OF SKIN.
I'M NOT A RACIST.

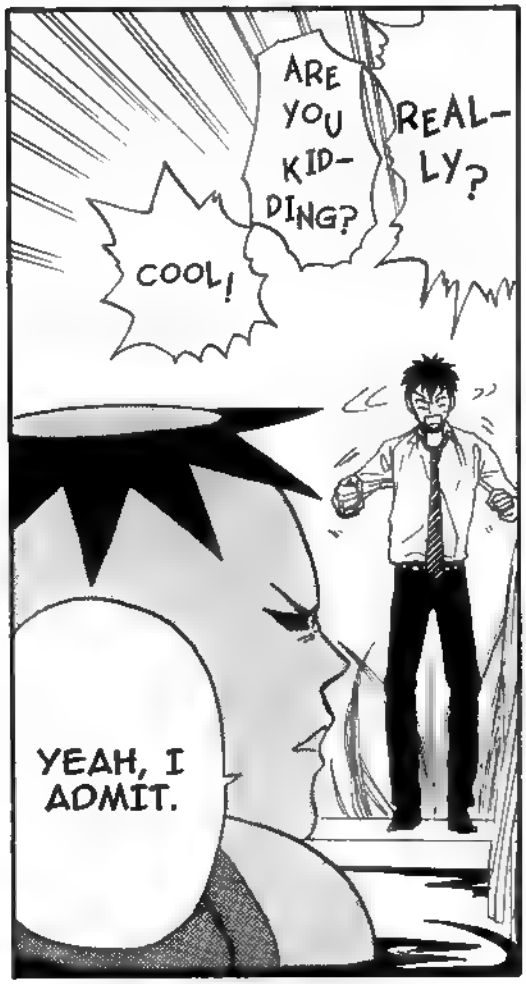
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
HEY!

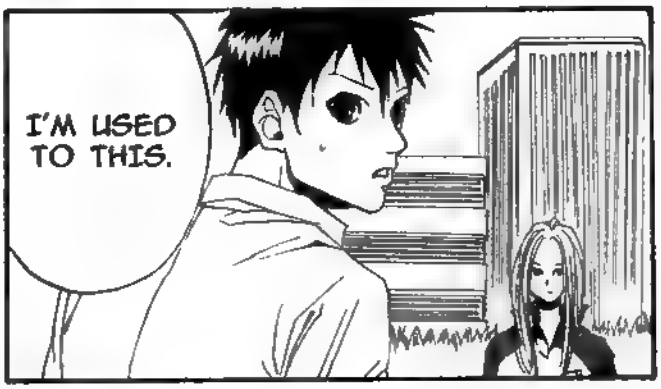
HEY!
YOU AREN'T A FOREIGNER, ARE YOU A HUMAN AT ALL?

GREEN THINGS ARE GREEN!!
IT'S GRE-EN.


STOP THIS.

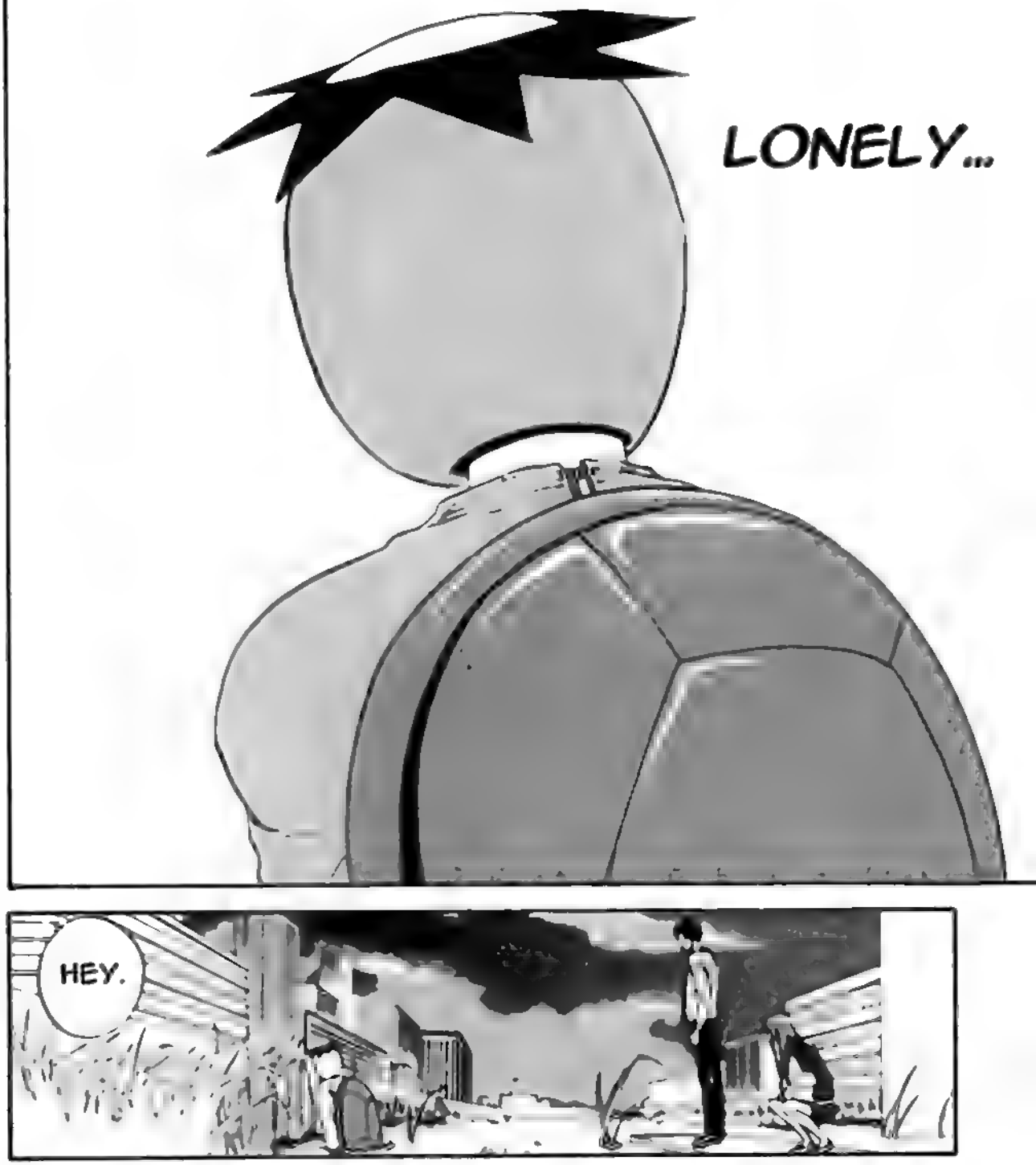

ENOUGH!
BUT... THIS SKIN...
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT YOU DON'T DISCRIMINATE PEOPLE BY THEIR RACE?


ARE YOU KID-DING?
REAL-LY?
COOL!
YEAH, I ADMIT.


I'M USED TO THIS.

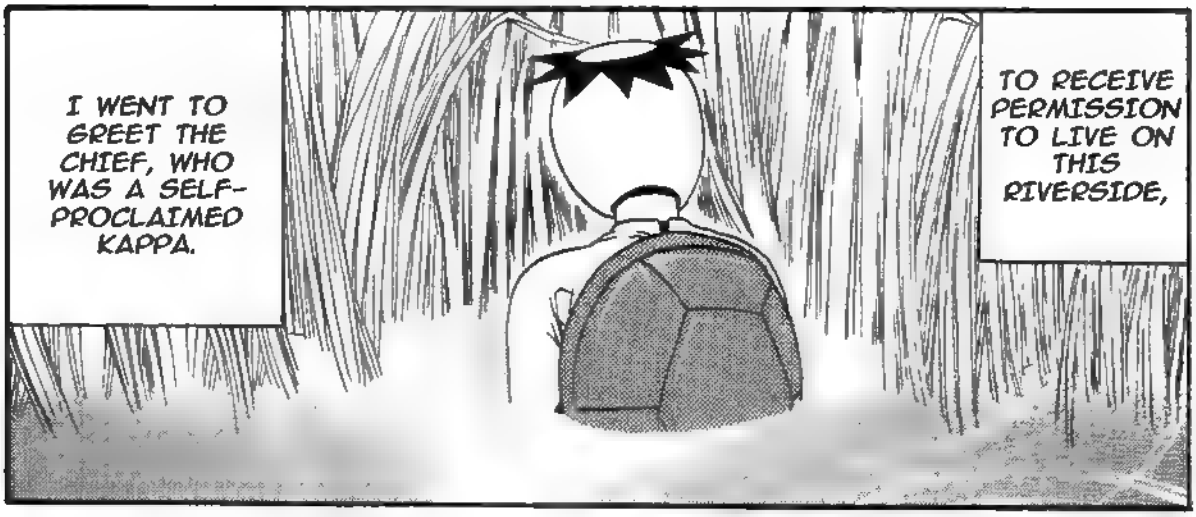
YES. NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT,
I'M A KAPPA.

YES, THERE'S NO OTHER WAY, BUT STILL...
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I SAW ONE...
IT'S RARE IN PRESENT-DAY JAPAN.
IT'S NOT STRANGE THAT YOU WERE ASTONISHED.
I WANT TO ASK A FAVOR OF YOU.
THE NEXT TIME...
DON'T ACT SO SURPRISED, OKAY?
WHEN YOU SEE ONE OF MY KIND...
THAT'S RIGHT...
I'M SORRY.
IT MAKES ME FEEL A BIT LONELY...
SURE.
EVERY LIVING THING FEEL...
BEING REJECTED MAKES...

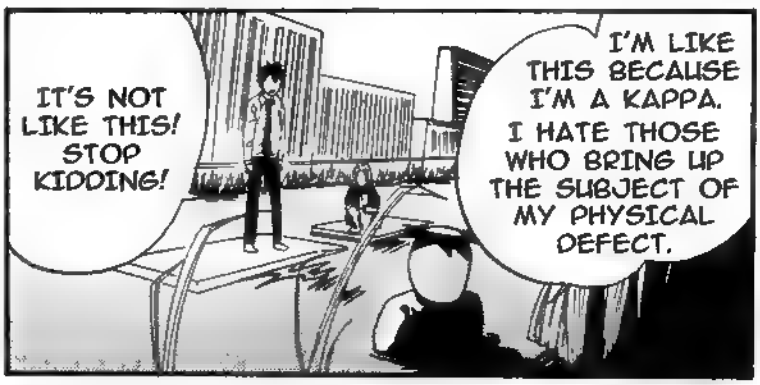

LONELY...

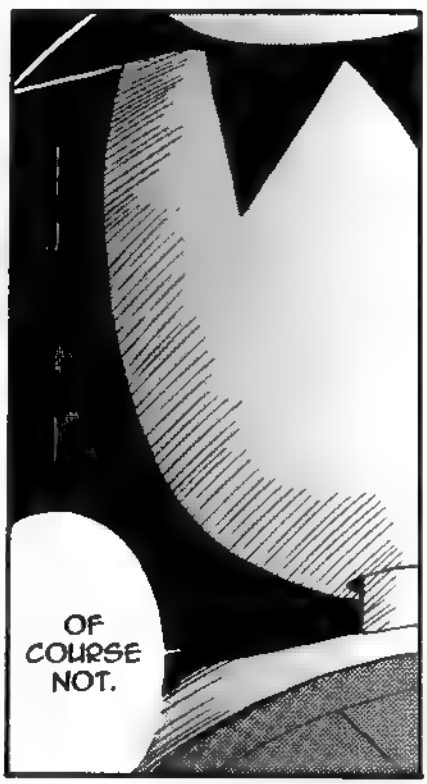
HEY.

USUALLY I TRY NOT TO MAKE ENEMIES AND DON'T ACT RECKLESSLY.
BUT THIS TIME IT WAS REALLY IMPOSSIBLE.
THE SKIN HAS NORMAL COLOR.

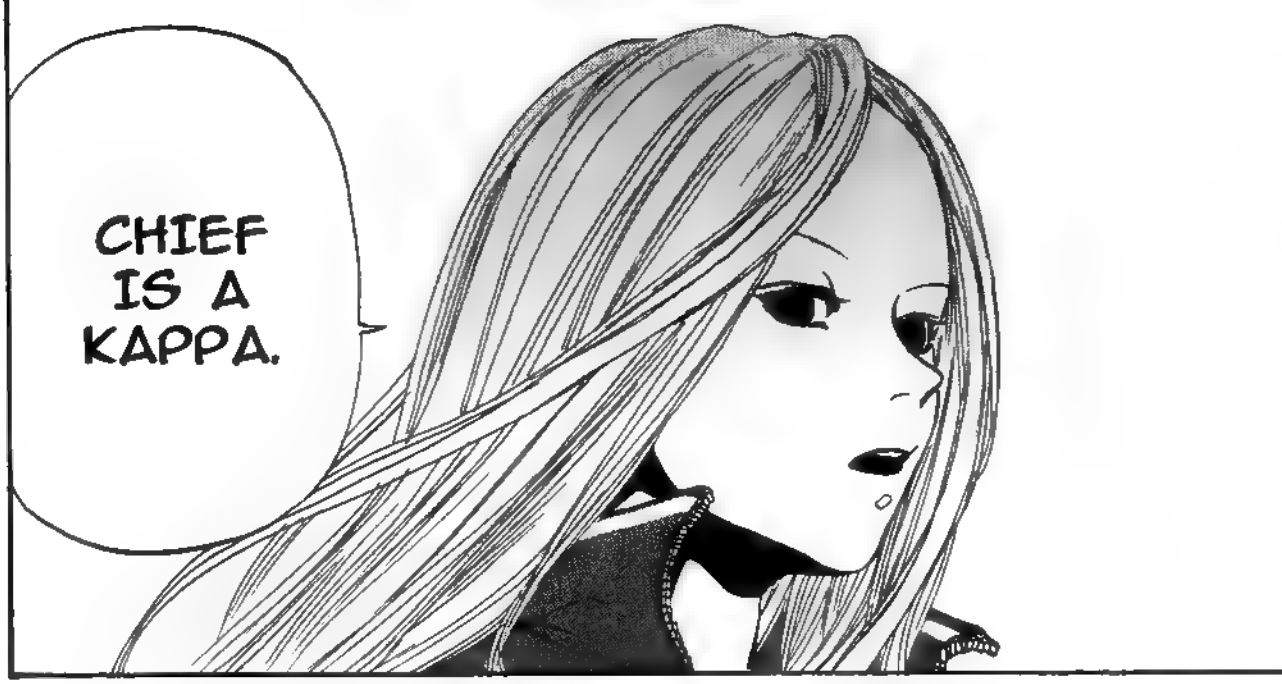

I WENT TO GREET THE CHIEF, WHO WAS A SELF-PROCLAIMED KAPPA.
TO RECEIVE PERMISSION TO LIVE ON THIS RIVERSIDE,

ARE YOU WEARING THIS?
HIS SKIN COLOR, OR MAYBE...
I NOTICED A ZIPPER.

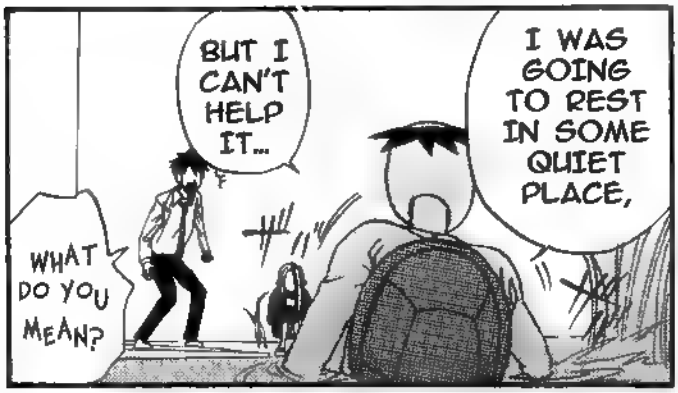

IT'S NOT LIKE THIS! STOP KIDDING!
I'M LIKE THIS BECAUSE I'M A KAPPA. I HATE THOSE WHO BRING UP THE SUBJECT OF MY PHYSICAL DEFECT.

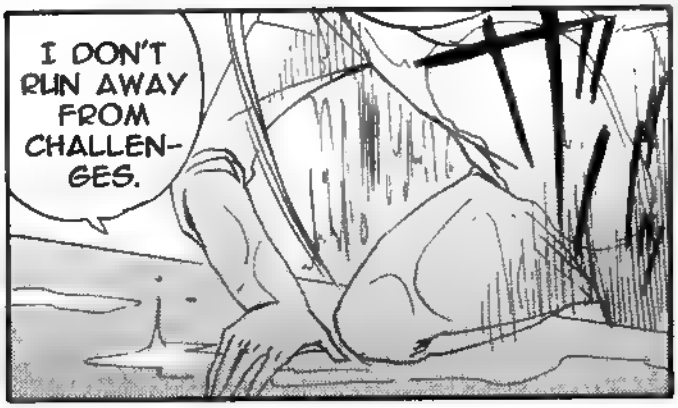

OF COURSE NOT.

YOU AREN'T A KAP...
YOU ARE MISTAKEN!

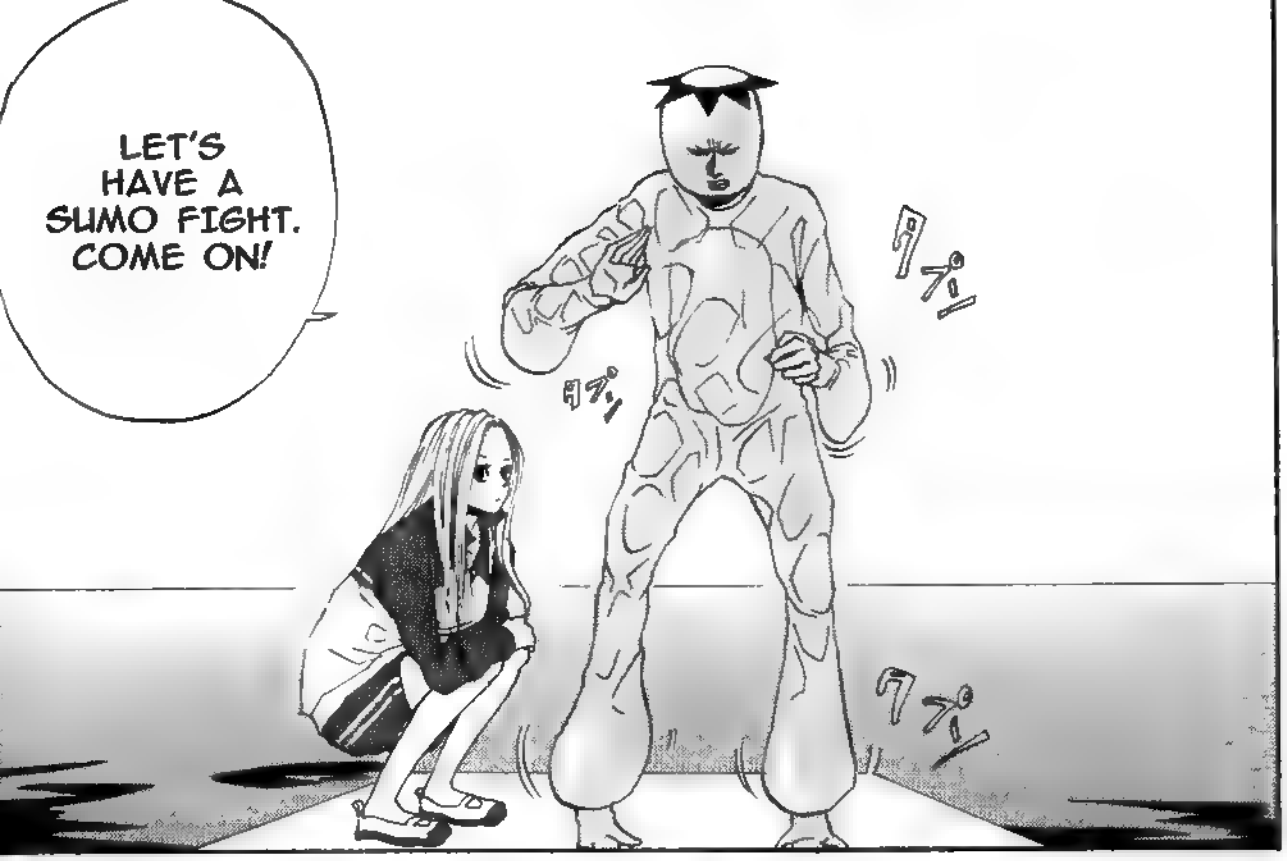

CHIEF IS A KAPPA.

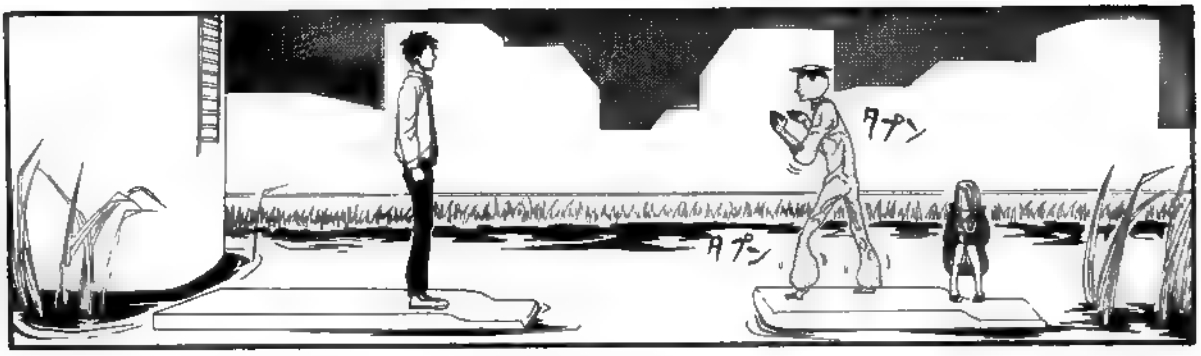
CHIEF IS A KAPPA.
IT'S AS TRUE AS THE FACT THAT I'M A VENUSIAN.


I WAS GOING TO REST IN SOME QUIET PLACE,
BUT I CAN'T HELP IT...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


I DON'T RUN AWAY FROM CHALLEN-GES.

ALL PEOPLE HERE...
ARE INSANE!

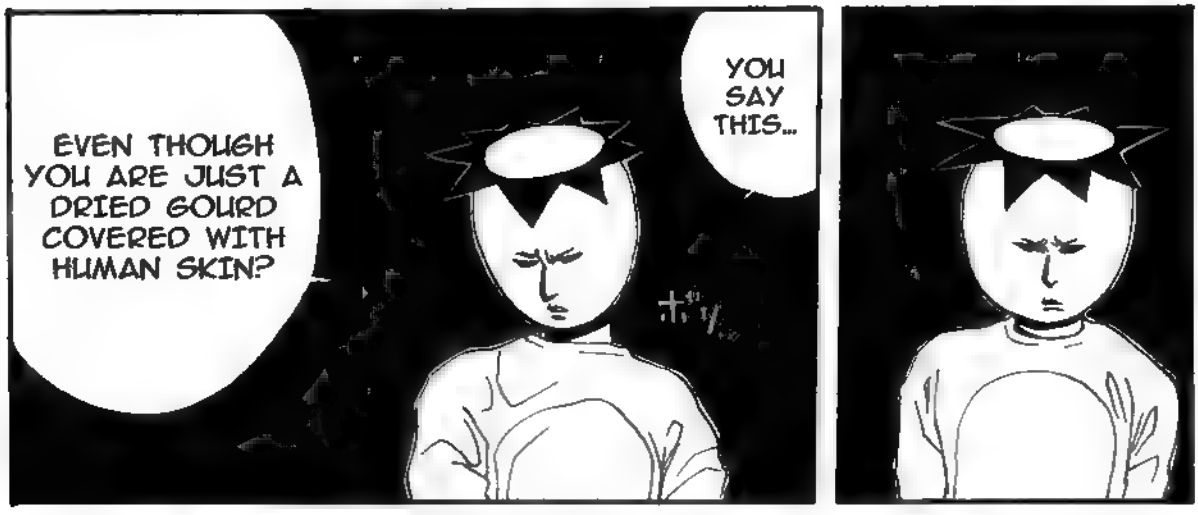

LET'S HAVE A SUMO FIGHT. COME ON!
ドシン
ドシン
ドシン


ドシン
ドシン

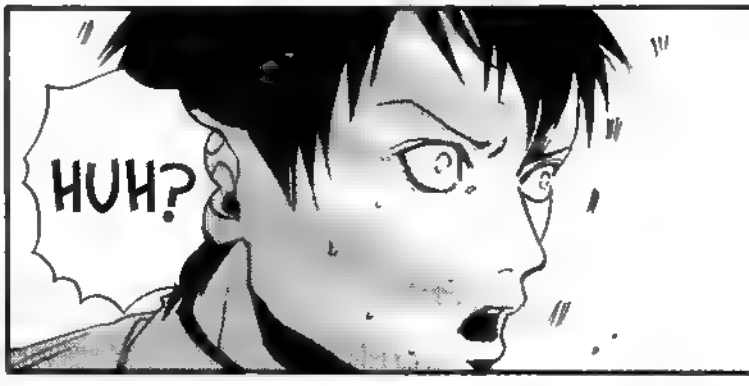
IT'S ABSURD! I CAN'T FOLLOW YOU.
THE TOP OF THIS COSTUME SUITS YOU PERFECTLY.
IT ISN'T.
THIS IS THE MECHANISM OF MY BODY.

ISN'T THE INSIDE
SORT OF A POOL OF WATER?

AREN'T YOU JUST WEARING A KAPPA COSTUME OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL?
THE HECK IS THIS »I FEEL LONELY WHEN EVERYONE ACTS SURPRISED«?

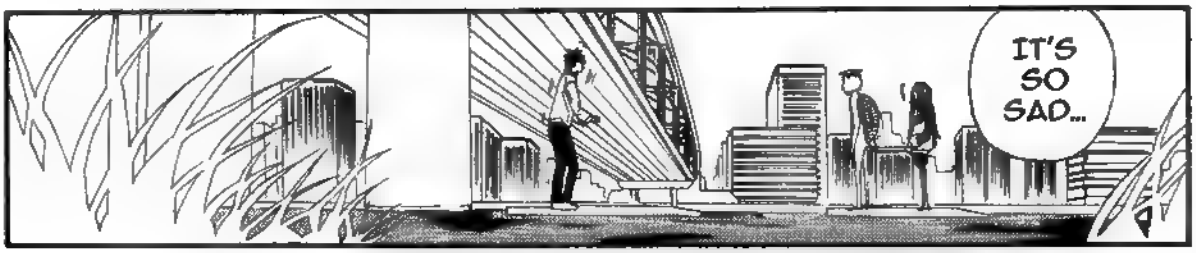

EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE JUST A DRIED GOURD COVERED WITH HUMAN SKIN?
YOU SAY THIS...

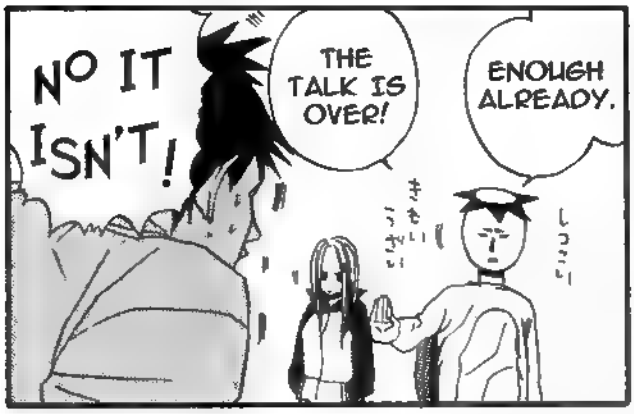
SURE THING!
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT ME, I'M NOT A PIECE OF FOODSTUFF!
YES, EXACTLY.


HUH?

CAN YOU DENY IT COMPLE-TELY?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING...
WHAT ARE YOU...

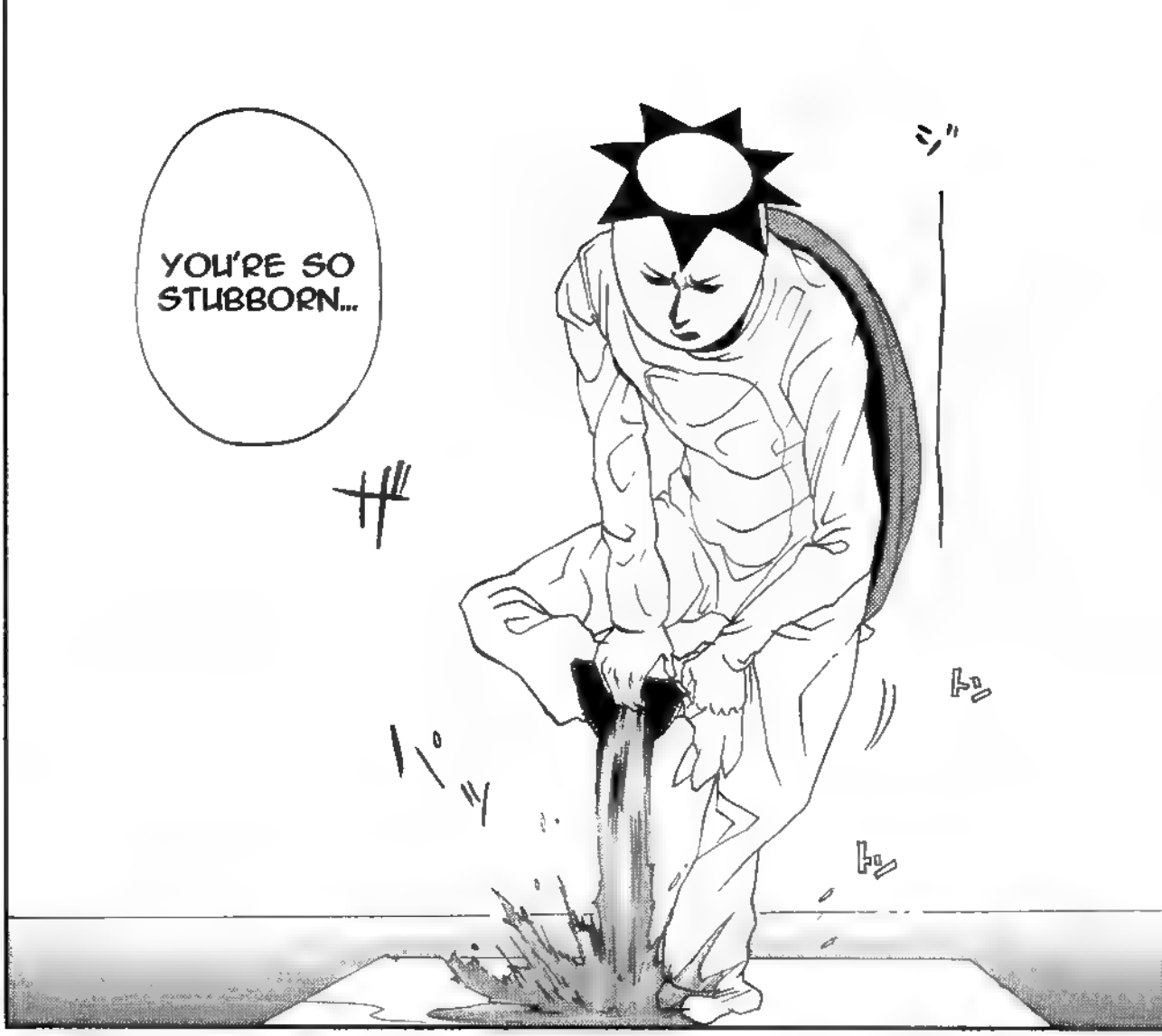
CAN UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH...
NOBODY


IT'S SO SAD...

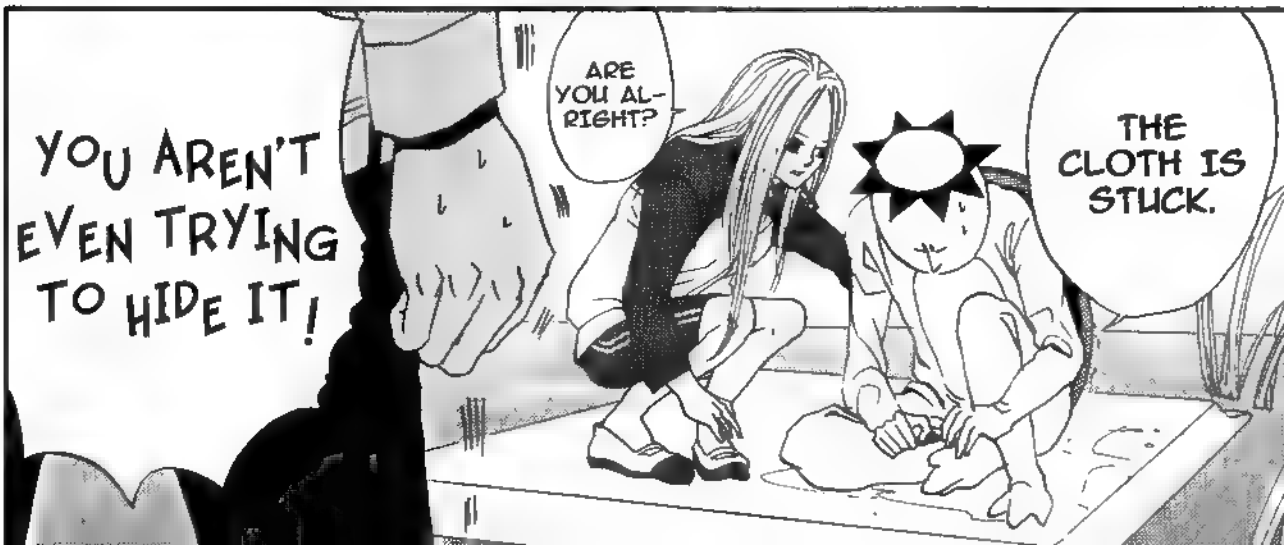

NO IT ISN'T!
THE TALK IS OVER!
ENOUGH ALREADY.

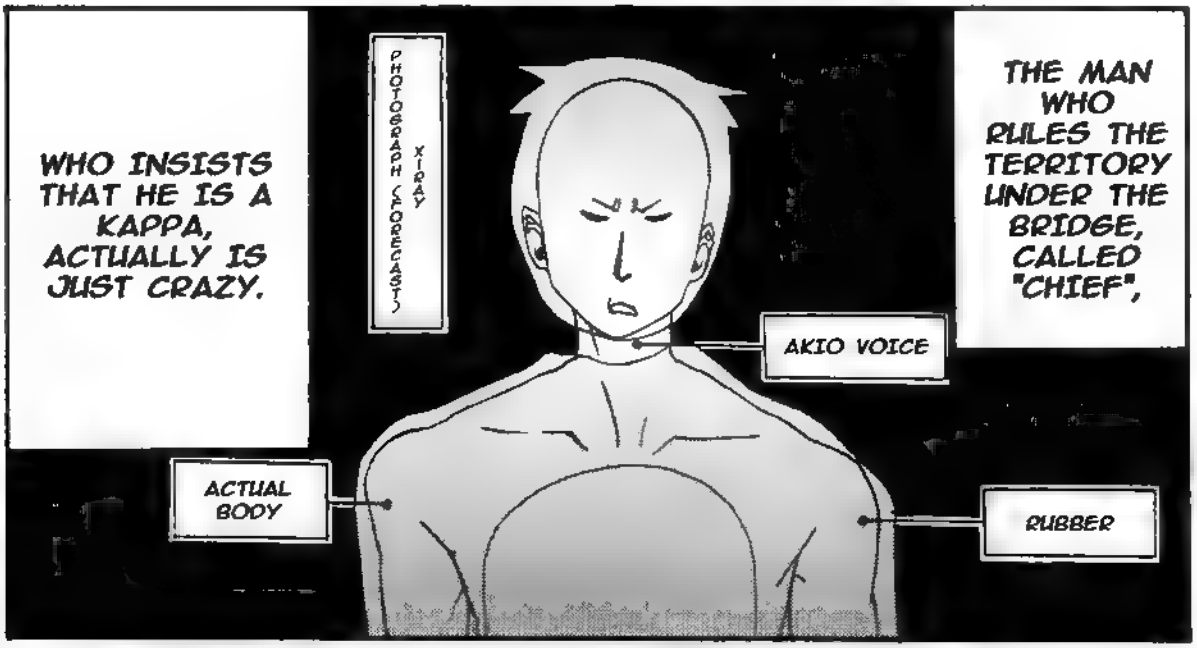
WE WEREN'T TALKING ABOUT THIS!

WAIT A MINUTE...
SIT DOWN FOR A WHILE!
YOU'LL HAVE TO PERSUADE ME...
AH, I KNOW, I KNOW!


YOU'RE SO STUBBORN...

AH!
FU...

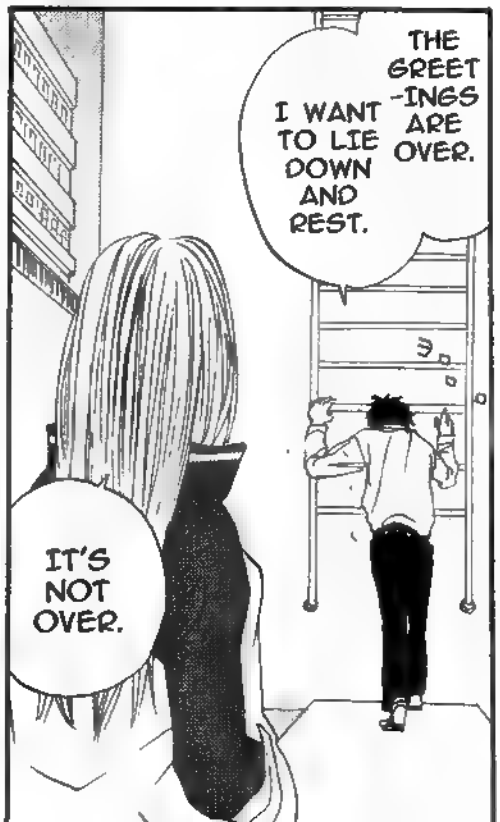

YOU AREN'T EVEN TRYING TO HIDE IT!
ARE YOU AL-RIGHT?
THE CLOTH IS STUCK.


WHO INSISTS THAT HE IS A KAPPA, ACTUALLY IS JUST CRAZY.
PHOTOGRAPH (FORECAST)
XIRAY
AKIO VOICE
ACTUAL BODY
RUBBER
THE MAN WHO RULES THE TERRITORY UNDER THE BRIDGE, CALLED "CHIEF",

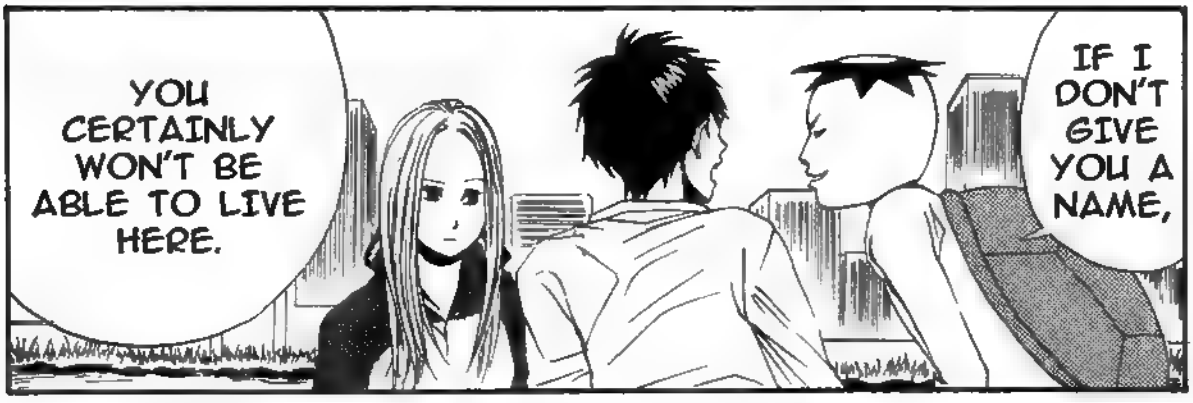
I WON'T MIND ANY MORE.
ALRIGHT.

HUH?
NO...

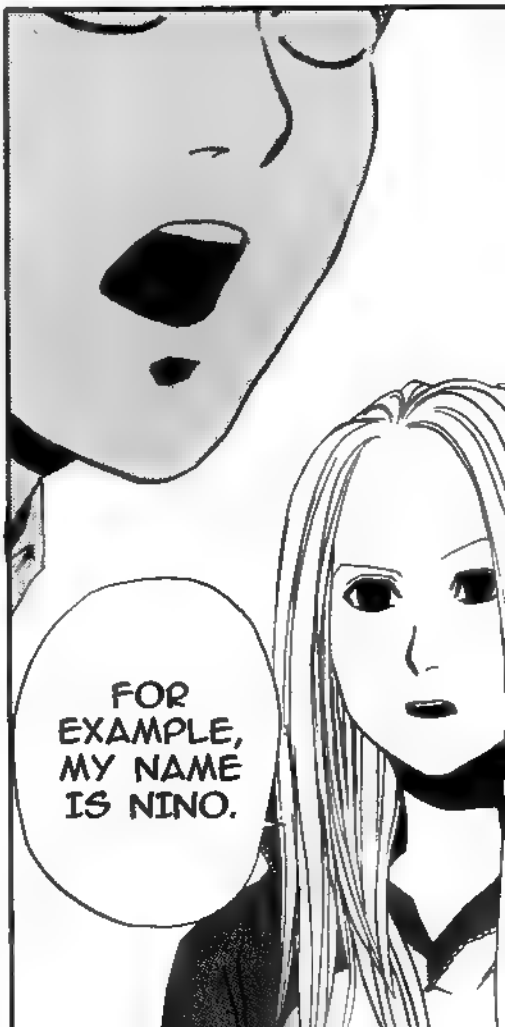
YOU STILL
DON'T HAVE A NAME.


THE GREET -INGS ARE OVER.
I WANT TO LIE DOWN AND REST.
IT'S NOT OVER.

I'LL NAME YOU.
HUH?
BUT YOU CAN'T USE THIS NAME.
MY NAME IS KOU! ICHINOMIYA KOU.
HAVEN'T I INTRODUCED MYSELF?


YOU CERTAINLY WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE HERE.
IF I DON'T GIVE YOU A NAME,

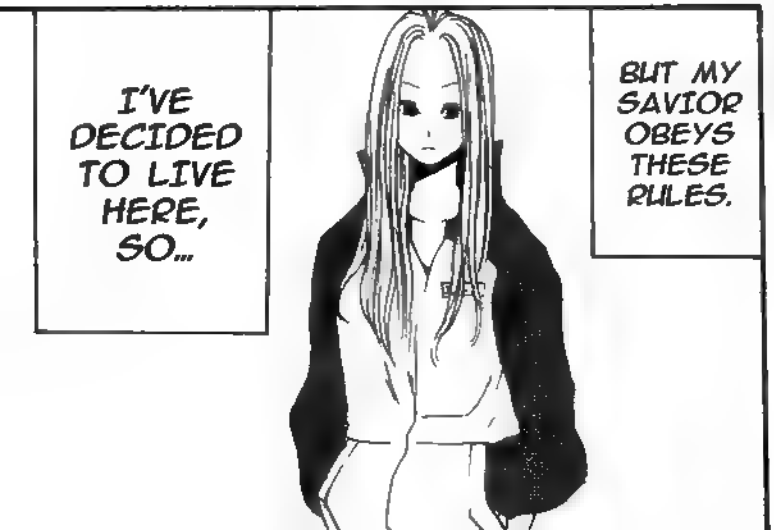
YES
AND THIS MAN IN COSPLAY COSTUME GAVE IT TO YOU, RIGHT?
SO YOU'RE CALLED NINO?


FOR EXAMPLE, MY NAME IS NINO.

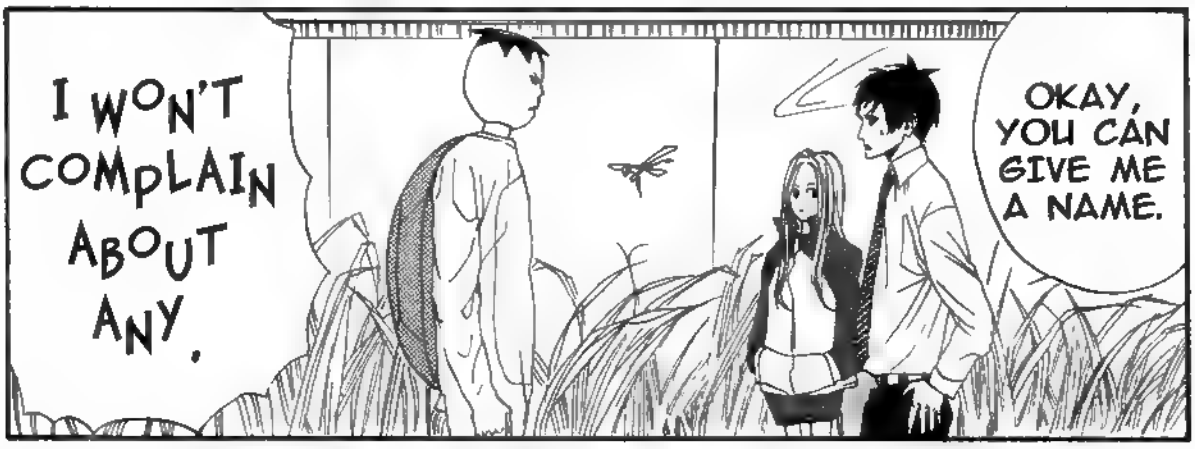
WHAT DOES THIS NAME...

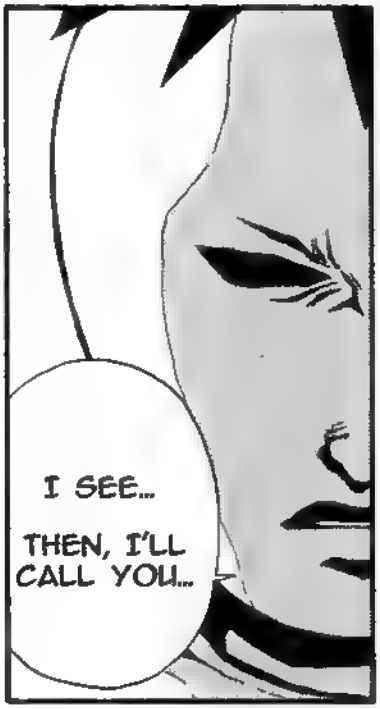
2-3

EXPLANATION: "NI-NO SAN" IS HOW "CLASS 2-3" IS PRONOUNCED



DO AS THE ROMANS DO!
WHEN IN ROME,
I GOT IT.


I WON'T COMPLAIN ABOUT ANY.
OKAY, YOU CAN GIVE ME A NAME.


I SEE...
THEN, I'LL CALL YOU...

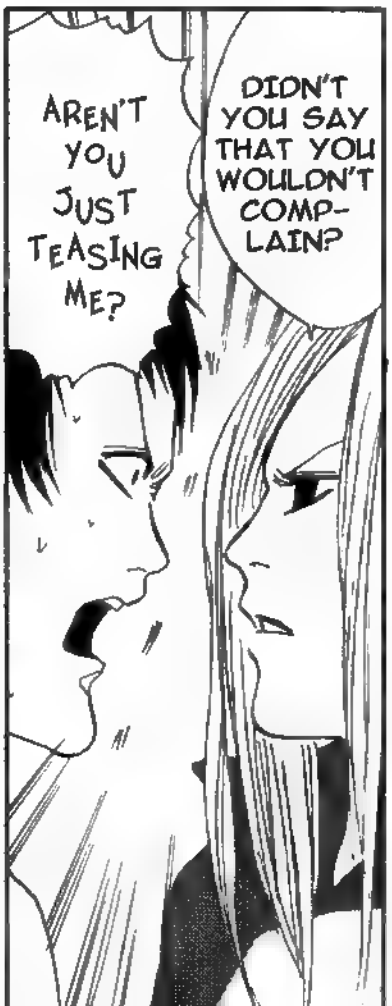
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE RESOLVED ON LIVING HERE.

WELL SAID...

NAME:
"RECRUIT"
リクルート

LOOKS LIKE YOU UNDERSTAND MY IMAGE, BUT STILL, WAIT A BIT.
PLEASE WAIT A MINUTE!
IT'S A GOOD NAME.
OKAY, WE HAVE DECIDED.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
A JAPANESE NAME, IF POSSIBLE!
CAN YOU AT LEAST THINK OF ONE MORE NAME?


AREN'T YOU JUST TEASING ME?
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT YOU WOULDN'T COMPLAIN?

A JAPANESE NAME, YOU SAY... THEN, I'LL CALL YOU...
BUT AT LEAST I DON'T WANT TO BE ASHAMED TO INTRODUCE MYSELF!

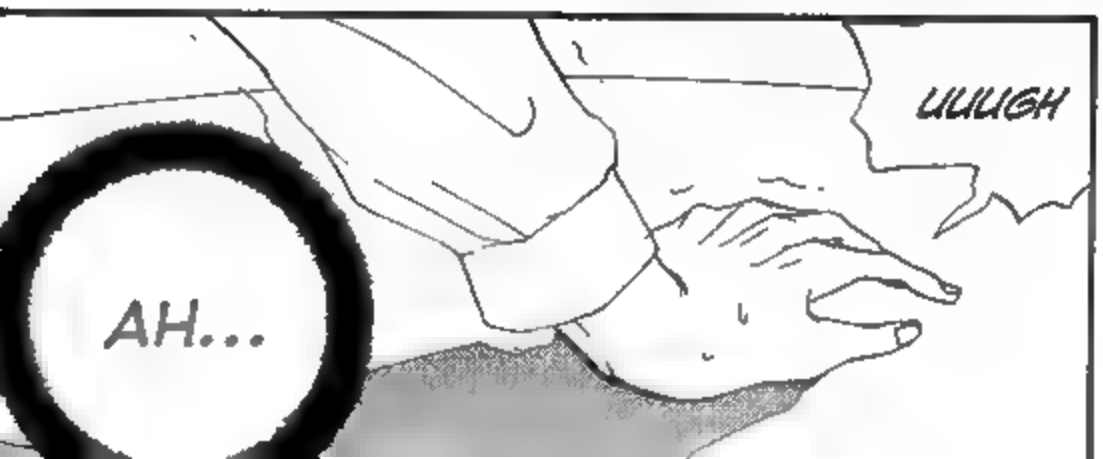
JUST ONE MORE...
I DON'T NEED SOME REALLY COOL NAME.

"AGREEMENT ACHIEVED"

YEAH JAPANESE NAMES REALLY DON'T SOUND GOOD.
IT DOESN'T SOUND NICE, RIGHT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I'VE DECI-DED.
I'M OKAY WITH "RECRUIT".
THEN, "AGREE-MENT...

☜Chapter 8 A place to rest



IT'S NOT STRANGE, BECAUSE SLEEPING HERE PEACEFULLY IS IMPOSSIBLE!

CRICK IN MY NECK

very hard..

ズズズ

THIS BED IS PROBABLY ...

It's a piece of cloth!

This isn't a futon!

IT'S SO EARLY AND YOU ARE ALREADY NOISY, R.CK...

Or perhaps I should call it

"futon"?

FUTON?

バサッ

ISN'T USING THIS FUTON SORT OF CRUEL?

YES.

I SEE ...

IT'S JUST A CLOTH! IT CAN'T PROTECT ME FROM ANYTHING!

YESTERDAY

YESTERDAY I WAS IN HIGH SPIRITS SO I THOUGHT THAT EVEN THIS CLOTH WOULD PASS

YES, OF COURSE!

HEY, ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS FUTON?

I'LL USE IT!

BY THE WAY,

THERE'S ONE THING I WANT TO ASK YOU...

ARE YOU?

ポッ

ポッ

WHO

THAT'S IT. YOU'RE PROBABLY ...

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE...

HUH?

WAIT.

DON'T INTERRUPT ME...

YOU'RE

DEFINITELY WRONG.

YOU'RE WRONG.

FROM THE PIGEON CARRION ASSOCIATION.

This level of acquaintance?!

LUCKILY SHE REMEMBERS AT LEAST

AH, I REMEMBER THAT CONVERSATION.

So you mean that you've really forgotten?

Yesterday you told me that you'd forget me if you don't see me for one day, but...

YOU'RE MY LOVER.

SO, WHAT'S WITH THE FUTON?

YES, OF COURSE.

SO DO YOU REMEMBER OR NOT?

YEAH.

I HAVE ONLY ONE.

THERE'S NO OTHER FUTON.

...YOU MEAN THAT...

...HUH?

I HAVE A LOT OF NEWSPAPERS THOUGH.

THAT YESTERDAY YOU LENT ME THE ONLY FUTON YOU HAD...

NO, JUST ONE.

INCLUDING THE FUTON YOU GAVE TO ME YESTERDAY, YOU HAVE ONLY TWO?

S...

....

EH, THEN YOU MEAN.

WHEN KOU CAN'T REPAY A DEBT TO SOMEBODY, HE HAS A STRESS THAT CAUSES FITS OF ASTHMA.

LET'S EXPLAIN!

WHY DO YOU HAVE FITS AGAIN?

Stop this!!

It's your fault!

NO, IT'S MY FAULT

.....

...IS IT SO?

WHAT THE LIFE UNDER THE BRIDGE IS LIKE

I WILL

I WANTED TO UNDER-STAND BETTER .

...COULD YOU SHOW ME AROUND YOUR HOUSE?...

SURE.

IF I THINK A BIT

NINO PROBABLY HAS SOME FUTONS IN HER HOUSE.

EXAMINE IT THOROUGHLY!

Color

HMMM
I THOUGH THAT I WOULDN'T MIND SHOWING MY NIGHTMARE TO SOMEBODY.
It's velvet!!

Chapter 9 GO

WITH THIS THOUGHT, RICK DISCOVERED THIS IN NINO'S ROOM.

I WANT TO UNDERSTAND HOMELESS NINO'S DAILY LIFE.

IT'S...

IT'S GREECE.

Greece !?

LIKE A BED OF A KING OF SOME COUNTRY !!

IT'S SUPER FLUFFY AND WARM!

I WAS DECEIVED ...SO EASILY

DAMN ...

A MYSTERIOUS MAN FROM GREECE WAS DUMPING GARBAGE UNDER THE BRIDGE.

REALLY !?

THAT'S WHAT CHIEF SAID.

THEN IT'S A LIE!

I SEE ...

BUT MEANWHILE YOU HAVE SUCH A WONDERFUL...

I SLEEP IN AN AWKWARD POSITION AND HAVE NIGHTMARES,

I WAS HAPPY.

ISN'T IT GREAT?

IT MAKES YOU HAPPY TOO.

HUH ...?

WHEN YOUR LOVER IS HAPPY,

SURELY.

Yes it was really fortunate.

AN IDIOT !!!

NINO ...

SHE'S REALLY...

I WAS LUCKY NOT TO MAKE MY SAVIOR SLEEP IN THE COLD.

ぎゅるるる

HM?

..IS THIS A PILLOW?

YEAH, TO TELL THE TRUTH, I HAVE AN EXTRA PILLOW.

ゴッ

THIS ONE.

I WONDER HOW MANY TIMES WE CAN USE IT...

CHIEF SAID THAT I CAN'T USE IT MORE THAN ONCE IN A YEAR...

THIS PART.

AH, THAT'S FOR...

IT THIS FUTON AN EXTRA TOO?

IT'S COVERED IN DUST...

It's really just a piece of cloth!!

AH, SURE.

I NEED TO TAKE SOME IMPORTANT THINGS, AFTER THAT I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

CAN I GO TO MY HOUSE ONCE?

WELL, ANYWAY ...

LOOKS LIKE YOUR LIFE ISN'T BAD.

1

I RARELY WAKE UP SO EARLY IN THE MORNING.

EH!?

THEN, I'LL GO TO SLEEP...

AH.

WELL THEN..

I FELT ...

NO PROBLEM.

I WANT TO HAVE A LOOK.

WHEN YOUR ROOM IS READY, SHOW IT TO ME.

AH, NINO

WE CAN UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.

GOOD NIGH...

SOME SORT OF RELIEF

NINO LOOKS LIKE A RELATIVELY NORMAL PERSON.

SO...

GOOD NI...

SO CHIEF WARNED ME NOT TO BURN MY EYES.

I WAS LOOKING AT THE SKY BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO SPILL ANY TEARS

I WENT AWAY WITH HURRIED STEPS.

A NEW SOFA AND

ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT!

AND ALL KINDS OF TOOLS FOR LIVING THAT I BROUGHT HERE AFTER...

YES, RIGHT THERE.

EIGHT BOARDS TO PROTECT FROM ALL THE WINDS

荒川アンダーザブリッジ

ギィ

SIGH

THIS'LL BE OKAY FOR THE MEANTIME.

RECEIVING PERMISSION FROM NINO.

GOOD JOB!

THANK YOU FOR CALLING US AGAIN.

I HAVE PREPARED MYSELF TO LIVE HERE.

OK!

荒川アンダーザブリッジ

ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE

Chapter 10 New life.

I MOVED HERE...

.....

FIRST OF ALL, I MADE SURE THAT IT ISN'T DRAUGHTY

A WARM RUG ON THE FLOOR

MY FAVORITE FURNITURE

SUNSHINE ON THE WINDOW

There are pictures, decorations

Yeah it's quite good.

And other things I'm used to.

ISN'T IT NICE?

ISN'T IT NICE HERE?!

WELL...

ゴト..

LIVING UNDER THE BRIDGE...

NEVERTHELESS...

urgh.

...

UNDER THIS BRIDGE..

Ah, it's all useless. I'm just

BUT WHAT IF MY FATHER FINDS OUT?

NOT ONLY I CREATED A DEBT, BUT WHAT'S MORE...

OF COURSE, I DON'T THINK THAT I'M DOING

EVERYTHING IN A STUPID WAY.

RICK, MAY I COME IN?

OVER-WHELMED BY THIS.

WHAT'S UP?

ARE YOU STILL SLEEPY?

IS SPEAKING IN A WAY I CAN'T COMPREHEND HER.

ERRRM ...

SO, DO YOU LIKE IT HERE?

ANSWER ME.

it's cold, close the door!

YOU'VE ALREADY ENTERED.

AS USUAL, NINO

COOL.

EAT THIS.

NINO...

IT'S ROASTED, YOU CAN EAT IT.

YOU HAVEN'T EATEN ANY-THING SINCE YESTERDAY.

WHY, YOU SAY...

WHY DID YOU DO IT SPECIALLY FOR ME?

IS IT A FISH FROM THIS RIVER?

OF COURSE IT IS. THERE'S NO OTHER PLACE TO FISH HERE.

SO THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN GET FOOD IS FISHING?!

WE ARE LOVERS, AREN'T WE?

I WANT TO FEED YOU.

IF YOU ARE HUNGRY,

OR SHOULD I SAY...

SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE MY SWEETHEART.

AH, YES.

EAT IT.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I REALLY FORGOT THAT

SO, I CAN SAY THAT NOW I'M...

MY GIRL-FRIEND?

EH...

JUST THE TWO OF US?

TOGETHER WITH MY GIRL-FRIEND,

もぐ

もぐ

WILL YOU EAT?

HEY?

RICK WAS IN A DELICATE SITUATION.

WHAT?

Bon appetit!

Ah,

☜ Chapter 11 Pastime together

RICK NOTICED THAT THERE WERE JUST THE TWO OF THEM IN THE ROOM.

WHEN NINO BROUGHT SOME FOOD,

UNTIL NOW I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING UNREALISTIC...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

ARE YOU GOING TO EAT?

YES, I'M EATING, IT'S SO DELICIOUS, REALLY!!

HUH?

.....

BUT WHEN I SAW NINO DOING SUCH AN ORDINARY THING TOGETHER WITH ME...

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN ?

JUST WHEN I FINALLY THOUGHT THAT SHE IS CUTE...

.....

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

IT'S THE FIRST TIME THAT I INVITED A GIRL TO MY ROOM UNDER THE BRIDGE.

JEEZ, I'M TOO NERVOUS ..

SILENCE!!

EH?

NI..NINO!!

HEY, NINO...

ERRRR...

TALKING TO GIRLS.... TALKING TO GIRLS ...

I HAVE TO SAY SOME-THING!

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE ACTO... ARE YOU LISTENING? H... SEEN THAT MOVIE? WHAT'S ... E BRAND? WHERE'S TH... DRESSING SALON? WHAT TV ... YOU WATCH YESTERD... DO YOU LIKE MORE: CATS OR ... T BASEBALL TEAM DO Y... PORT? DO YOU LIKE BIRDS ... OF FASHION DO YOU LIKE? ... LIKE RINGS? DO YOU L... TER? WHAT COUNTRY DO YOU WA... TO VI... AT RE... YOU REC... END? WHAT TYPE OF ... FOR IN... NCE, ...

AH...

WELL...

I SEE.

It's nothing

TO ANSWER ANY OF THESE QUES-TIONS!!!

I CAN'T EXPECT HER

HAVE AN EVERYDAY CONVERSATION WITH NINO?

CAN I REALLY

WHAT EXACTLY IS NINO'S EVERYDAY LIFE?

AFTER ALL,

SHE HAS A ROYAL BED.

I DON'T KNOW HER REAL NAME.

I just picked it up

SHE WAS BORN

WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT NINO?

SHE LIVES UNDER THE BRIDGE.

THAT'S IT!

ON VENUS

oooo

THERE'S NO WAY THAT SHE'S REALLY A VENUSIAN.

WHAT?

EITHER A HARDCORE ASTRONOMY FAN

OR AN SF FAN.

NINO IS PROBABLY

THIS MEANS THAT

A CRAZY GIRL WHO STARTED TO THINK THAT SHE'S FROM VENUS.

WITH THIS PREMISE I CAN COME UP WITH A TALK ABOUT VENUS!

THEN...

I DON'T BELIEVE IN

SPACE ALIENS AND GHOSTS,

BECAUSE I 'VE NEVER SEEN THEM.

A BLACK JOKE ABOUT VENUS?

OVERREACT ION

AND THEN THE MAN FROM JUPITER SAID...

SHOULD I MAKE

HUH? I DON'T HAVE BOTH HANDS!

SPIRIT

SHOULD I START A SERIOUS TALK ABOUT VENUSIAN POLITICS?

WE CAN'T INSIST THAT SOLAR SYSTEM IS THE CENTER FOREVER.

INDEED...

OR

HE DOESN'T WEAR GLASSESBUT STILL LOOKS VERY INTELLIGENT

EXPENSIVE WATCH IS VISIBLE AT A GLANCE

HEY?

BUT IF MY SAVIOR WANTS IT...

WELL, HOW SHOULD I START?

YES?

HEY!

BOTH ARE REALLY EMBARRASSING!

IT'S NOT THIS, I ...

NO, DON'T WORRY ...

I CAN GIVE YOU A DRAGONFLY.

WHAT'S UP? IF THIS FISH IS NOT ENOUGH

IT'S...

SAY IT!

I SHOULD FORGET ABOUT MY PRIDE!

I HAVE TO SAY IT.

isn't it?

It's winter on Venus now,

WHO KNOWS ...

THAT'S IT...

WELL ...

TODAY,

OUR LIFE TOGETHER BEGINS.

REALLY NICE WEATHER, HOW DO YOU THINK?

I AGREE.

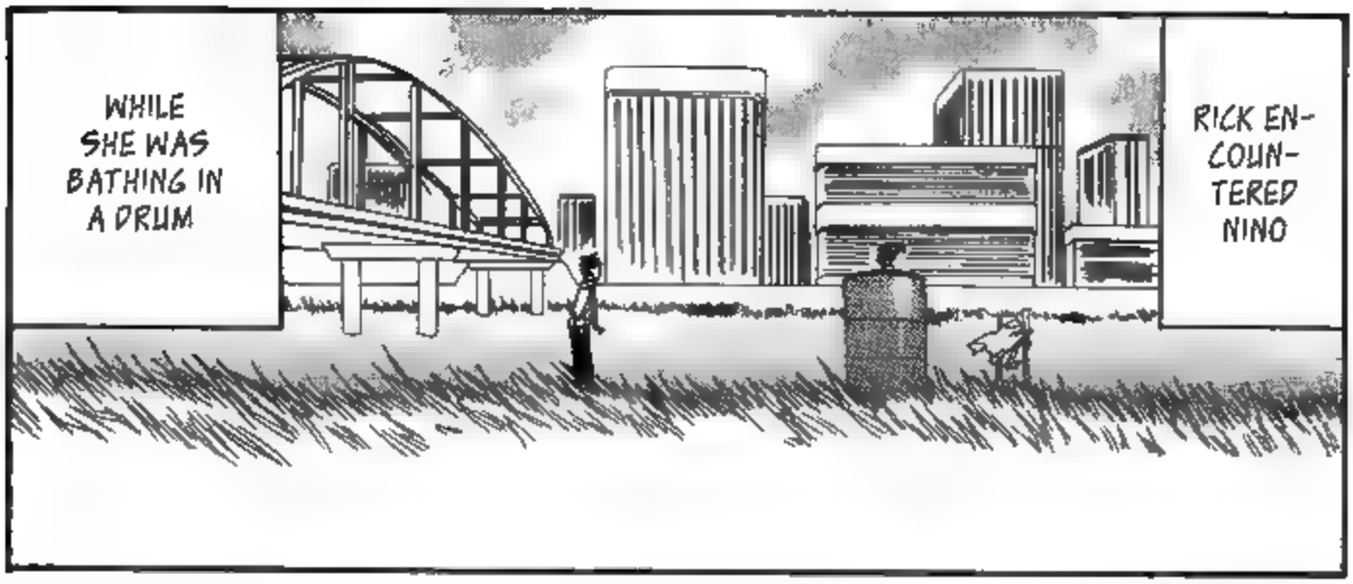
JASRAC

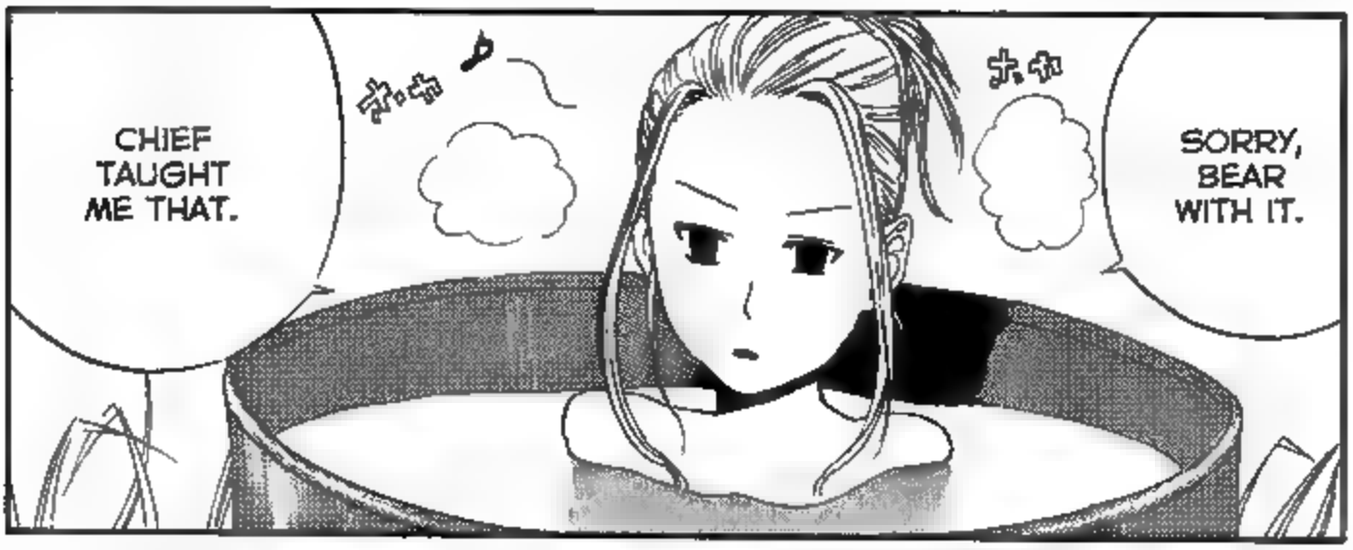
*TN: "VIVA NONNO" MEANS "LONG LIVE THE GRANDFATHER" IT IS AN ITALIAN SONG

荒川アンダーザブリッジ

ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE

Chapter 12 Enjoy your bath





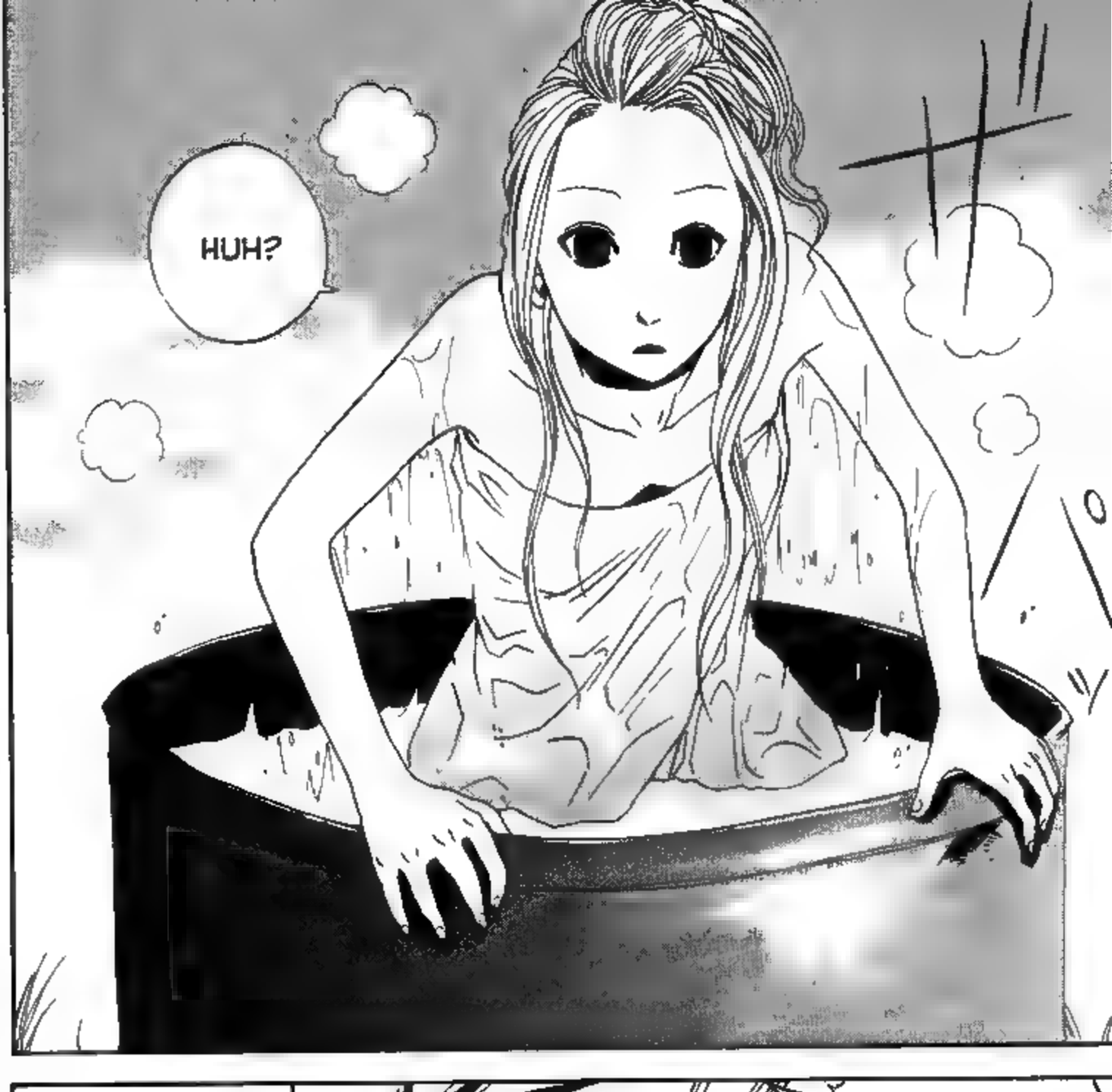
THIS IS THE ONLY QUESTION!
IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO WATCH?

NINO IS REALLY ECCEN-TRIC
IS IT REALLY OKAY?

NO...
THEN
I DON'T THINK SHE IS ONE OF THE PEOPLE WHO WOULD CARE ABOUT IT

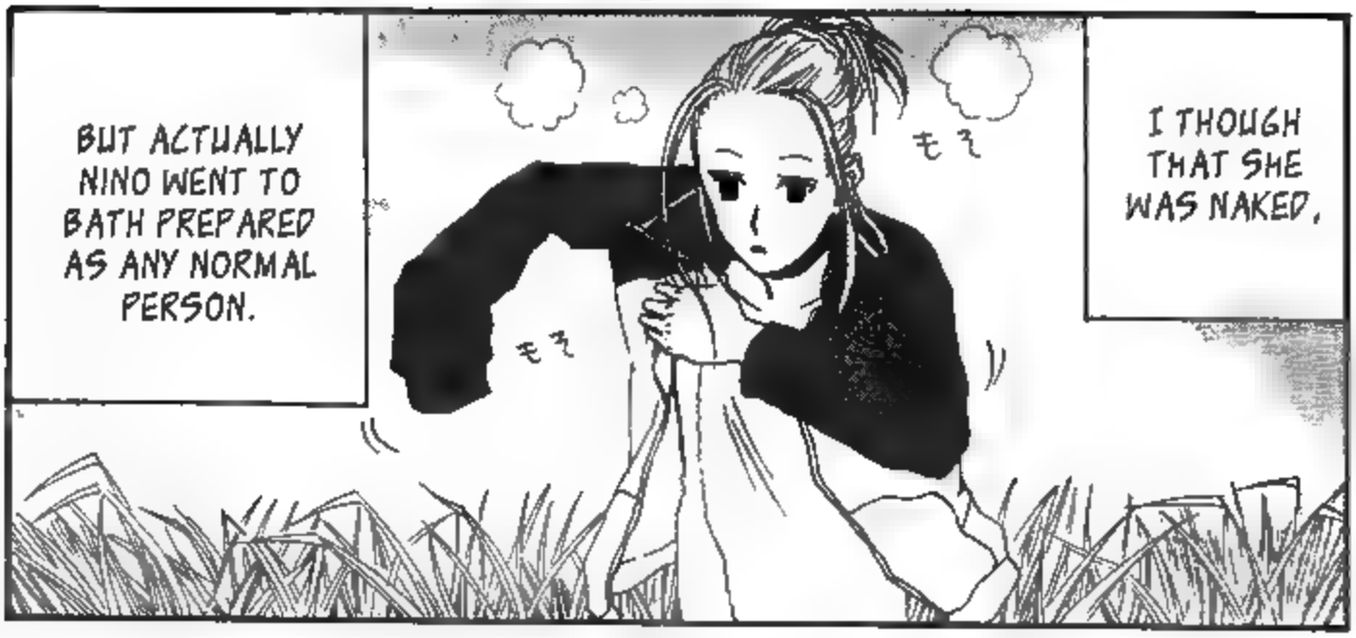
A NORMAL GIRL WOULD REACT LIKE THIS
KYAH! NOBITA, YOU PERVERT!
BUT THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THIS NOW.

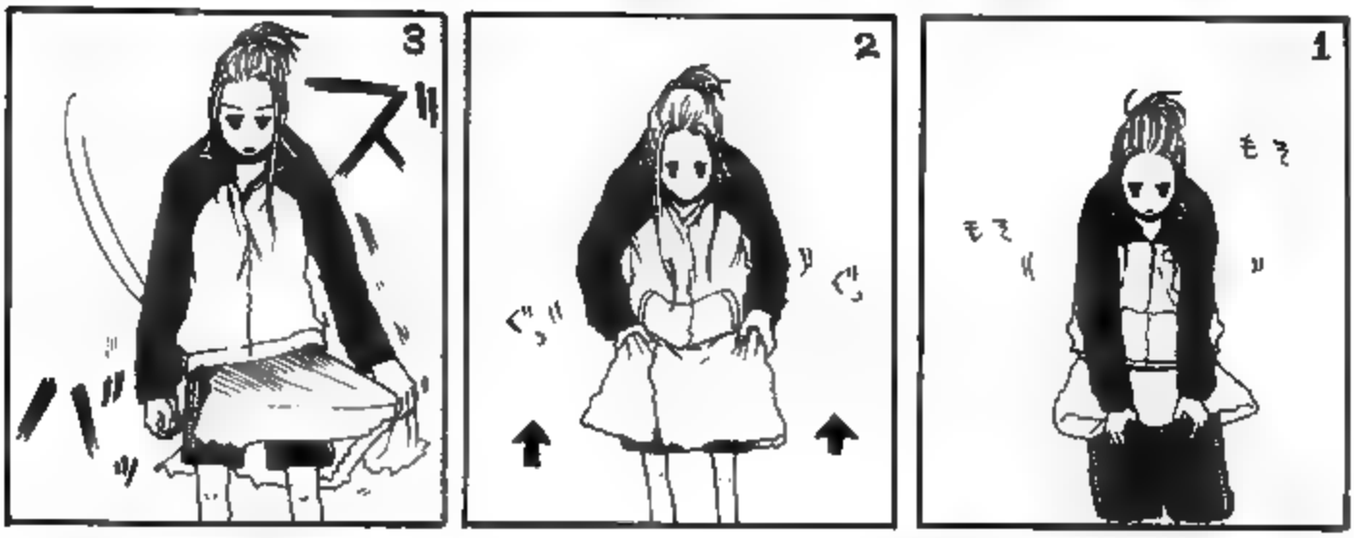
I SHOULD CLOSE MY EYES.
BECAUSE NINO IS THIS KIND OF PERSON
NINO LACKS COMMON SENSE, SO
YES.
FUUU--
NO,
NINO, WE AREN'T EVEN HOLDING HANDS YET!
Huh?!
OKAY, I'M LEAVING.
I HAVE TO DO IT PROPERLY...
Eh!?


HUH?

IT WAS LIKE A BETRAYAL.
I DON'T NEED SUCH COMMON SENSE!

Chapter 13 Urchin





ED'S NOTE: *WTH.* THAT'S JUST RUDE LOL

I SEE, THAT'S WHY YOU KNOW WHAT AN INDECENT PUBLIC EXPOSURE IS.
WHEN I ENTERED THE BATH, A PATROL CAR CAME...
BY THE WAY, RICK.
SO, THERE ARE SOME THINGS SHE DOESN'T FORGET.
SURE. HERE'S A TOWEL.
WOW, CAN I?
DON'T YOU WANT TO USE IT?
THE BATH, I MEAN.

YEAH!
IT FEELS SO GOOD!
HUH?
I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT.
THIS DRUM TURNED OUT TO BE REALLY USEFUL.
TAKING A BATH ONCE IS EXCEL-LENT.
!
WHA...
WHAT ARE YOU...

わしゃ
IT'LL BE OVER SOON.
Okay...

THIS SMELL...

IS THE SOUND OF MY DYING CUTICLE.
THIS CREAKING SOUND

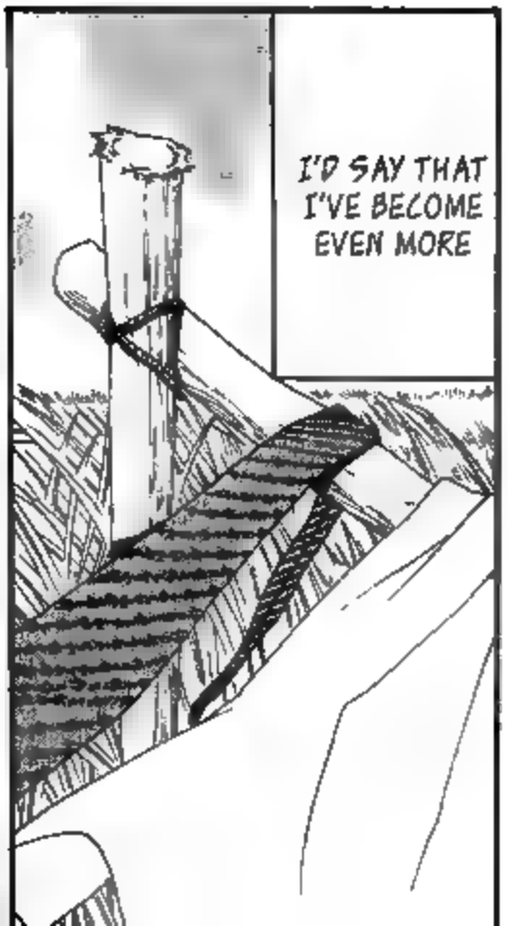
THAT'S WHY...

IT'S THE SAME AS THE SMELL OF THE CLEANSER THAT I SAW IN MY SCHOOL.

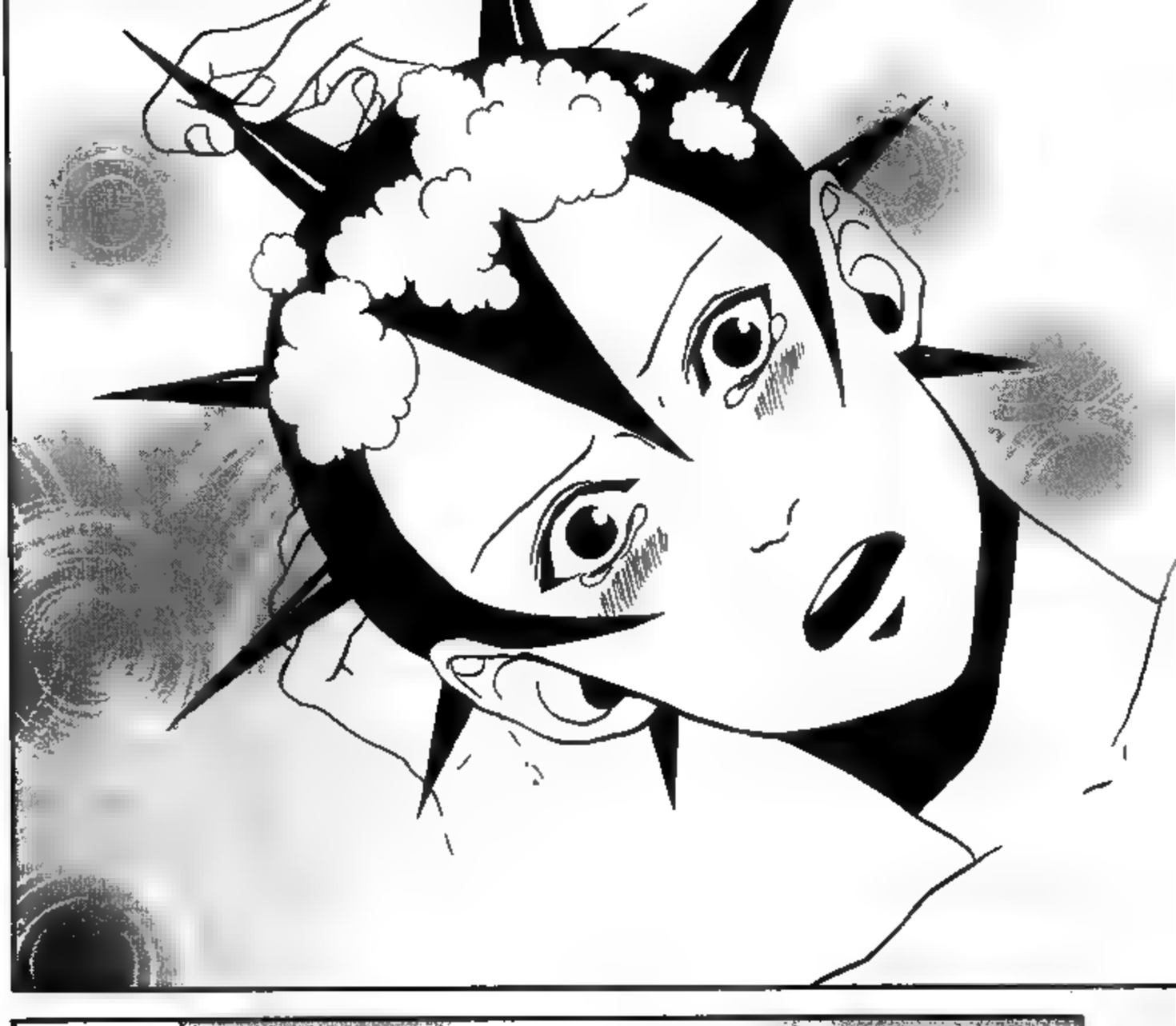
I NEARLY BURST INTO TEARS.

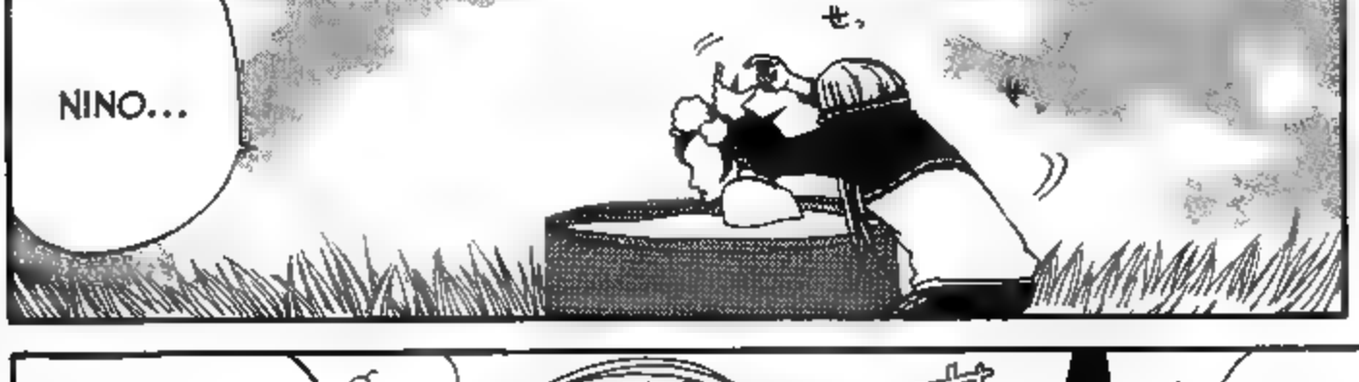
IT'S A TROU-BLE.

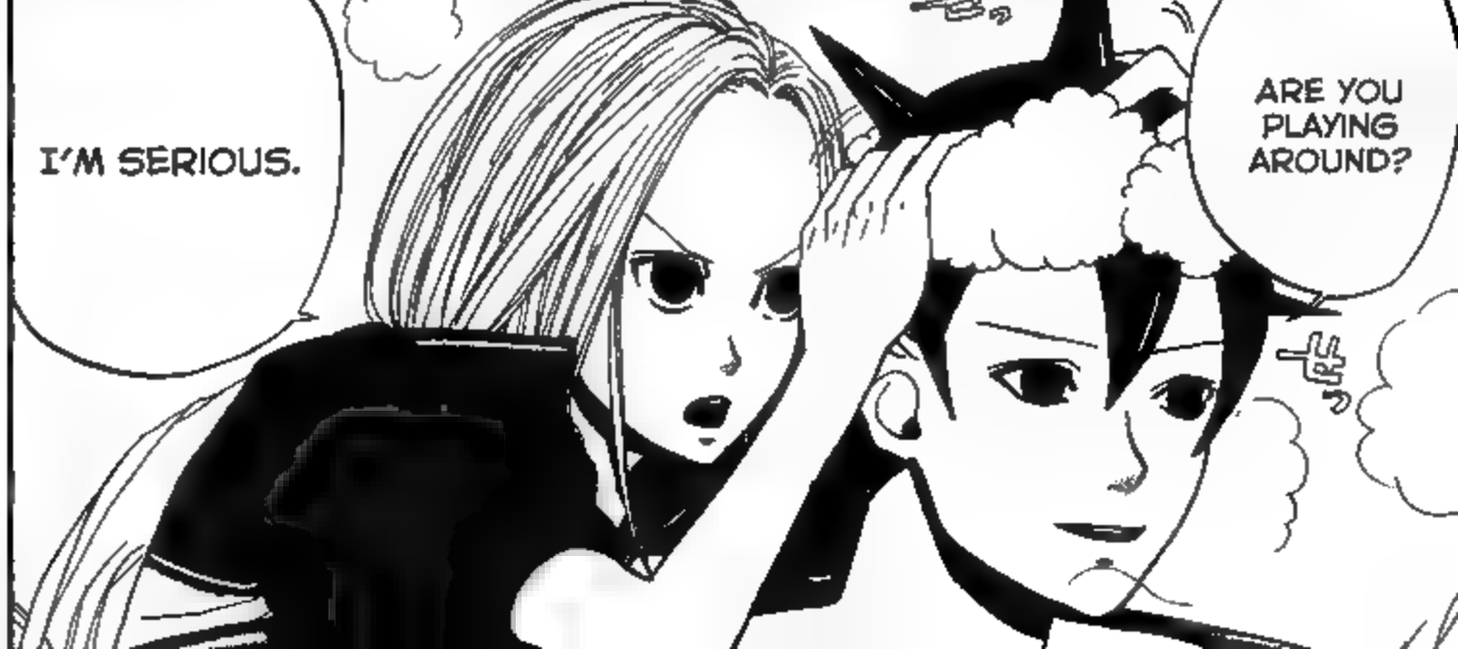
MY VOICE NOW IS PROBABLY WHINING.
IN-DEBTED TO HER


I'D SAY THAT I'VE BECOME EVEN MORE

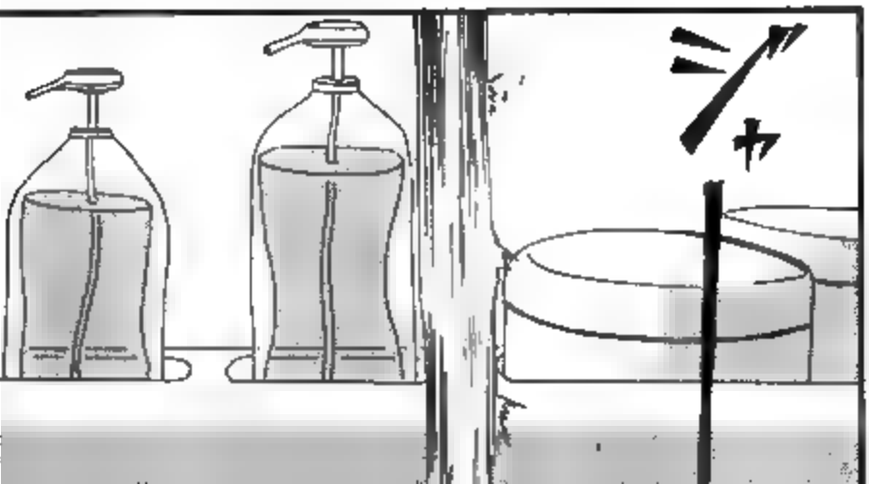
IT'D BE EMBAR-RASSING IF IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT I'M CRYING BE-CAUSE OF THE STEAM.
SO...




NINO...


I'M SERIOUS.
ARE YOU PLAYING AROUND?

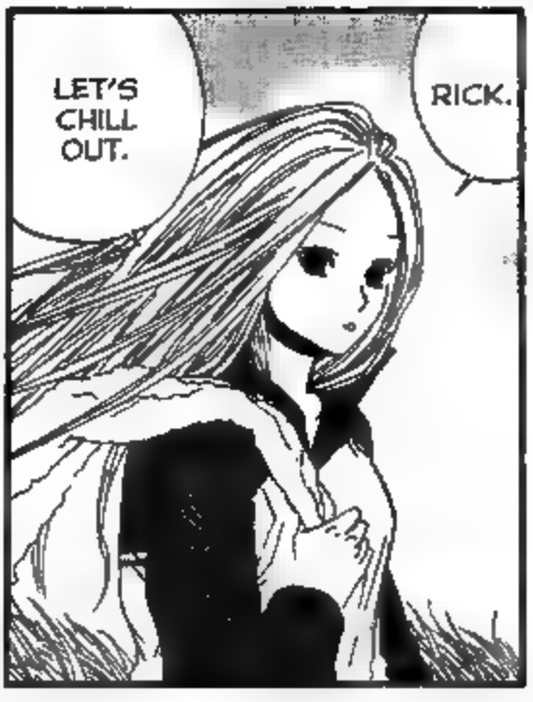
Chapter 14 Rick's memories



WE WON'T BE INDEBTED TO EACH OTHER FOR ANY-THING.
SO THAT
THE HARD DESTINY WAS
THRUST BEFORE ME.
FROM NOW ON, LIVE ALONE.
YES...
ANSWER?
THE WARMTH OF MY FATHER'S HANDS
ALONG WITH THE FOAM,

WAS WASHED AWAY
FROM MY HAIR...

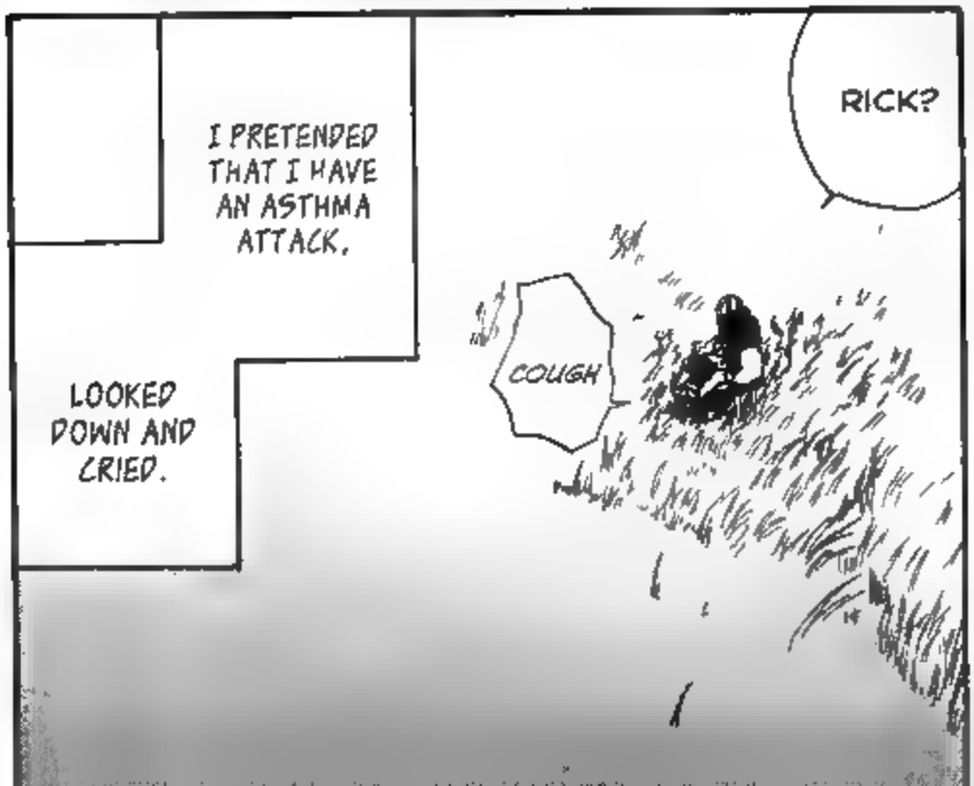
NINO.
HA HA HA
YOUR HEAD IS SO STARCHY.


RICK.
LET'S CHILL OUT.

I'LL DEFINITELY
REPAY THIS...

I WASHED YOUR HEAD JUST BECAUSE I WANTED TO DO IT.
2-3

THANK YOU FOR LET-TING ME DO IT.


I PRETENDED THAT I HAVE AN ASTHMA ATTACK.
LOOKED DOWN AND CRIED.
RICK?
COUGH

IT'S WARM UNDER THE BRIDGE TODAY.

荒川アンダーザブリッジ

ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE

I WAS STROLLING ALONE.

WHEN IT'S WARM, THIS RIVERBED IS RATHER LOVELY.

IN THE KAPPA COSTUME RULES THE RIVESIDE

IS PROBABLY AN EXAG-GERATION.

OH...

AFTER ALL, ...

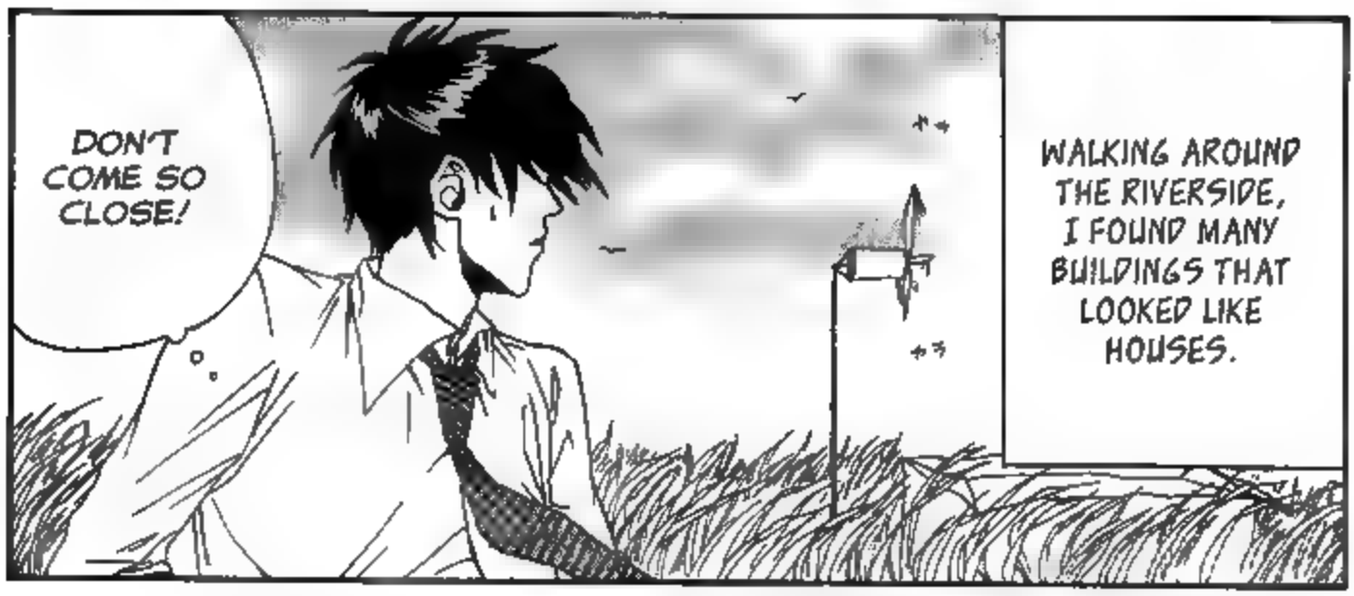
A HOUSE?

TO SAY THAT THE GUY

ビュウウ

LOOKS LIKE SOME OTHER PEOPLE LIVE HERE.
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

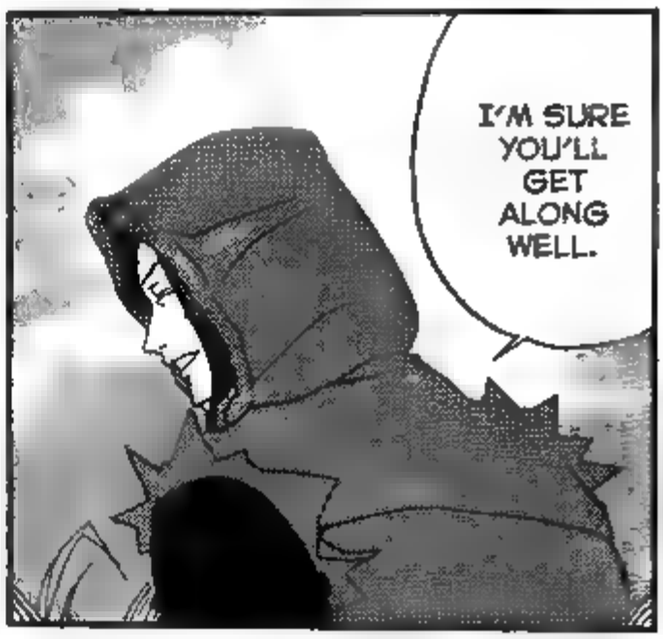
Chapter 15 Welcome party



YOU'RE THE NEWCOMER, RECRUIT, RIGHT?
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.
WE'RE HOLDING A WELCOME PARTY FOR YOU.
COME WITH ME.
I'LL INTRODUCE MYSELF LATER.
WHO MIGHT YOU BE?!
Of course!
Are you an earthling?
WOW...
EH?

YEAH. THEY'RE ALL NICE GUYS.
DO.. ALL THESE PEOPLE LIVE HERE?

LOOKS LIKE THEY ARE GOOD PEOPLE
EH?
EEEH..
Though this guy is wearing a sleeping bag


I'M SURE YOU'LL GET ALONG WELL.

Hahaha
I'm looking forward to it
A man's cooking!
Marvelous
Well, let's grill it

BEING INVITED TO A WELCOME PARTY DOESN'T COUNT AS DEBT.
EVERYTHING IS ALRIGHT FOR NOW

OH, RICK!
RICK.
THEY ALL SEEM TO BE IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS THE KAPPA MAN.
I DON'T WANT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO THEM.

WHY ARE YOU CALLED WHITEY?
NO WAY!
AH, THAT'S ME.

I SEE YOU MET WHITEY...
KAPPA, NINO.
WHITEY?

I
CAN ONLY WALK ON WHITE LINES.

THE GAME "I WON'T LEAVE WHITE LINES UNTIL I COME HOME"
HAVEN'T YOU TRIED IT?
WHITE LINES?
And an additional rule that Girls'll hate you if you lose

I expected it to be an oasis!
DID YOU GIVE HIM THAT NAME ON A WHIM AS USUAL?
IT'S IMPOLITE!
AH, THAT'S BECAUSE ...

"IF I STRAY FROM THE WHITE LINES, I'LL MARRY A WHITE CORNISH"
I STARTED THIS GAME WITH THE RULE

AND I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME FOR SIX YEARS.
Drawing white lines yourself is pretty handy
I'M FROM HOKKAIDO
FOUR YEARS AGO I WORKED OUT A METHOD TO WALK WITHOUT LEAVING THE WHITE LINES, BUT...

OKAY, THE LEADING ACTOR HAS JUST ARRIVED!
WHAT HAPPENED?

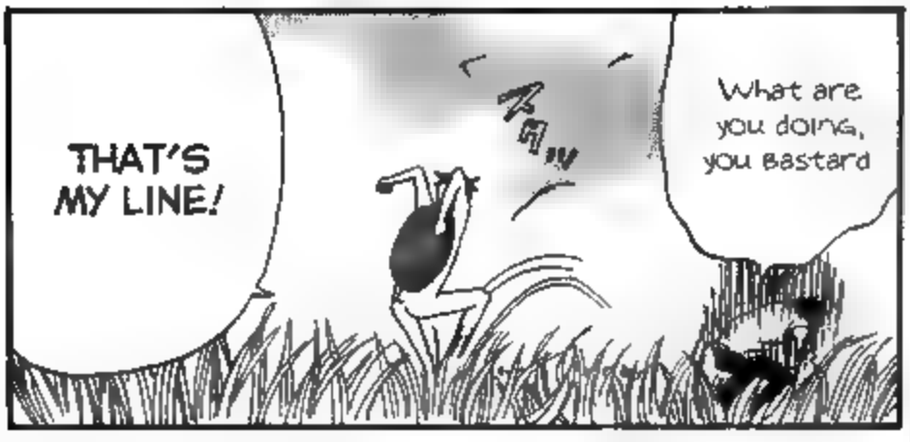
YES, IT'S MY TRACK.
THEN, THE WHITE PAINT I SAW EARLIER...
He saw it
I'm embarrassed

SURE THING...
RICK? CAN YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF,

I'LL EXPLAIN CLEARLY TO THOSE WEIRDOS
THAT I'M DIFFERENT FROM THEM!!

MY NAME IS ICHINOMIYA KOU, I'M A STUDENT OF THE TOKYO UNIVERSITY,
AN APPRENTICE IN ICHINOMIYA COMPANY AND ITS FUTURE CHAIRMAN.

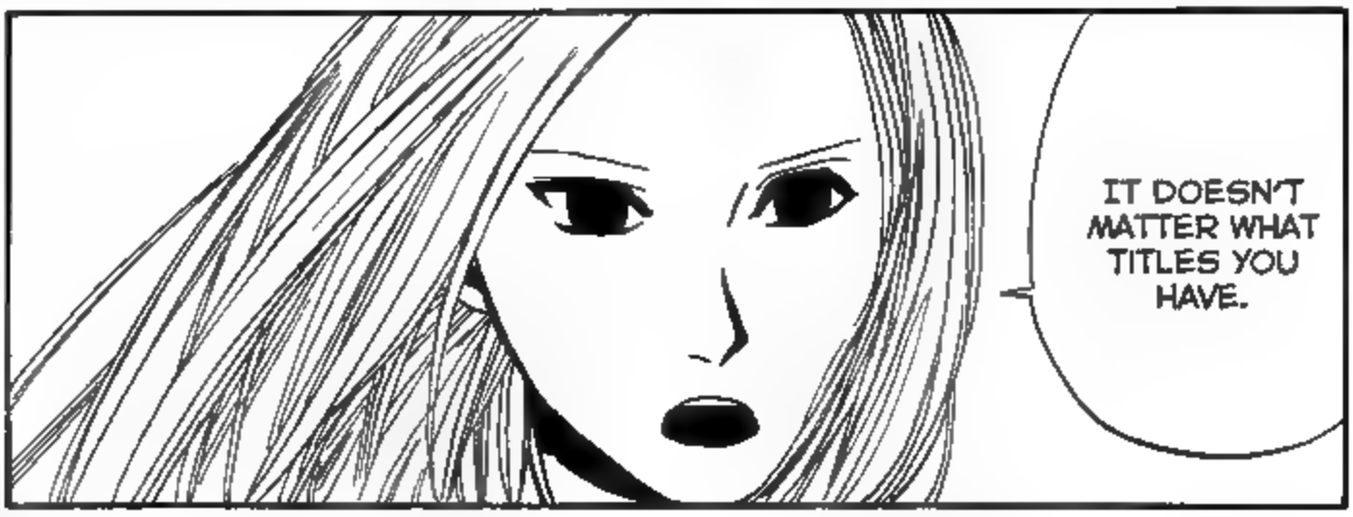
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, NICE TO MEET YOU.


What are you doing, you bastard
THAT'S MY LINE!

IT'S WELL KNOWN THAT ICHINOMIYA COMPANY IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST ENTERPR...
GYO!!!

LOOKS LIKE YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL.
YOU HAVE A DIFFERENT NAME NOW.

I WANT TO HEAR YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR PRESENT SELF.
RECRUIT.

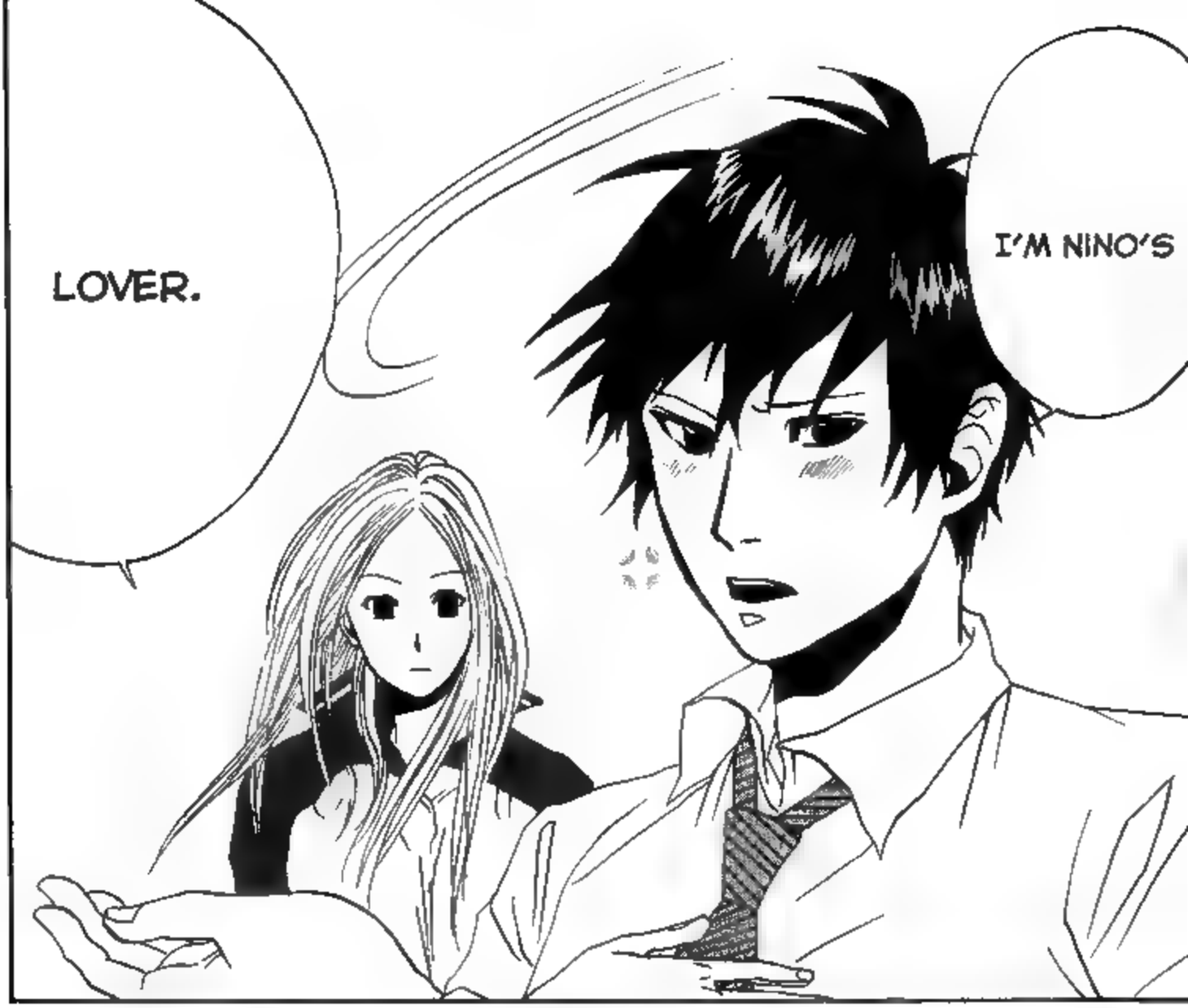

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT TITLES YOU HAVE.

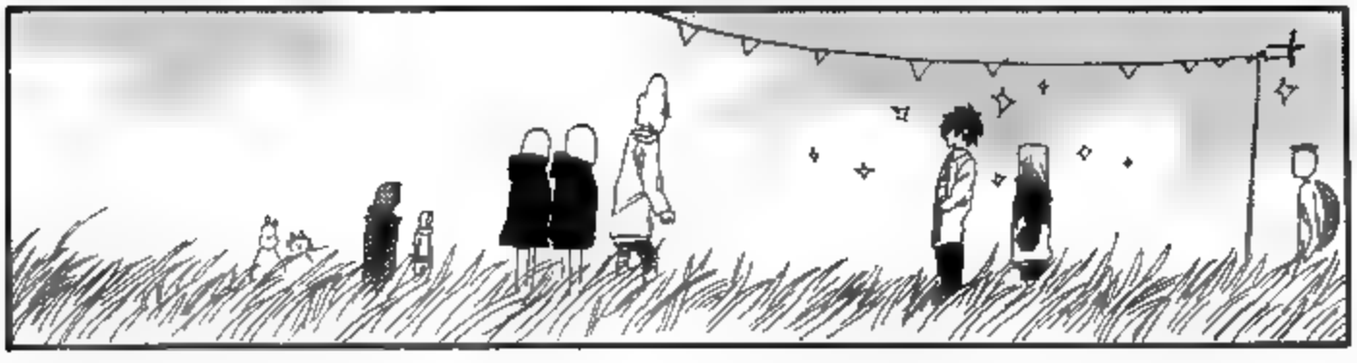
MY NAME IS RECRUIT

I'VE REFLECTED ON MY ACTIONS.
I'LL TRY TO CORRECT MY MISTAKE.

I HAVEN'T ...YET...
Nino..

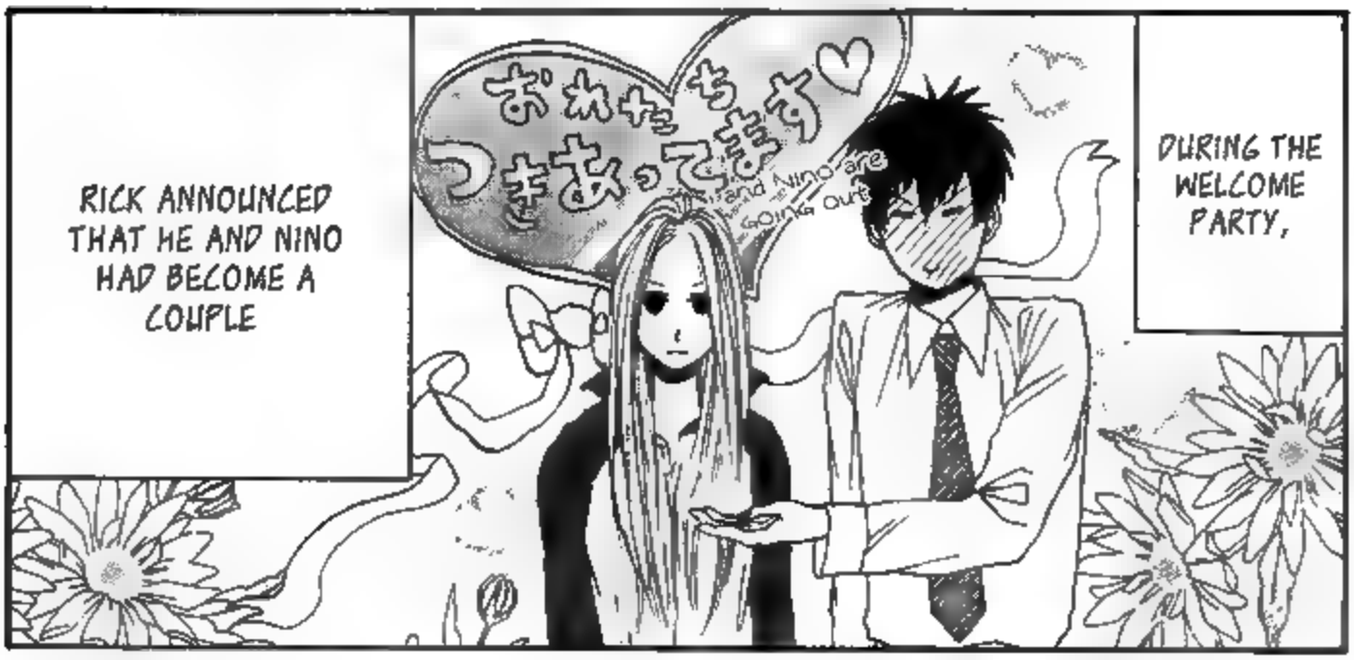
Yeah, she's as cute as always. Our angel.
Nino is so nice!
I WANT TO MAKE THEM REGRET IT.

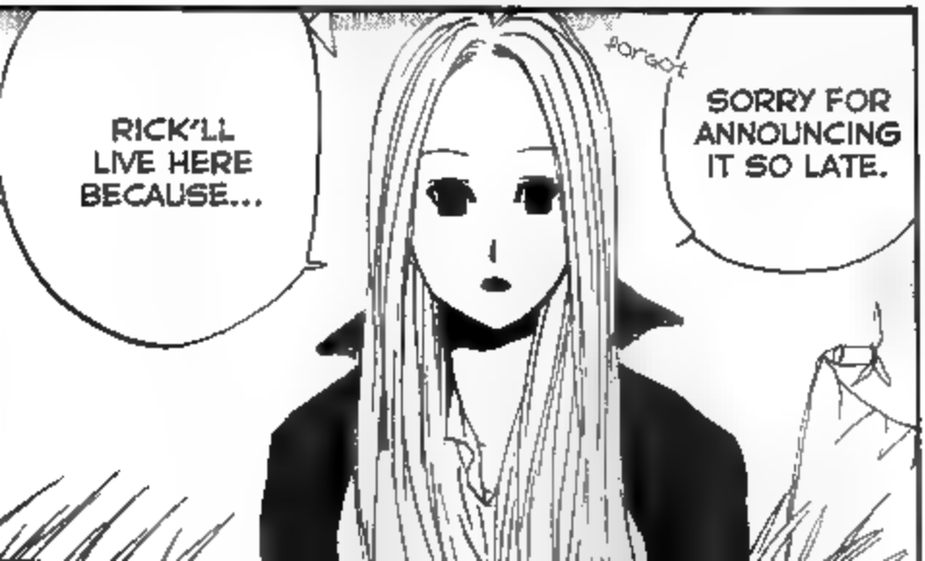

I'M NINO'S
LOVER.

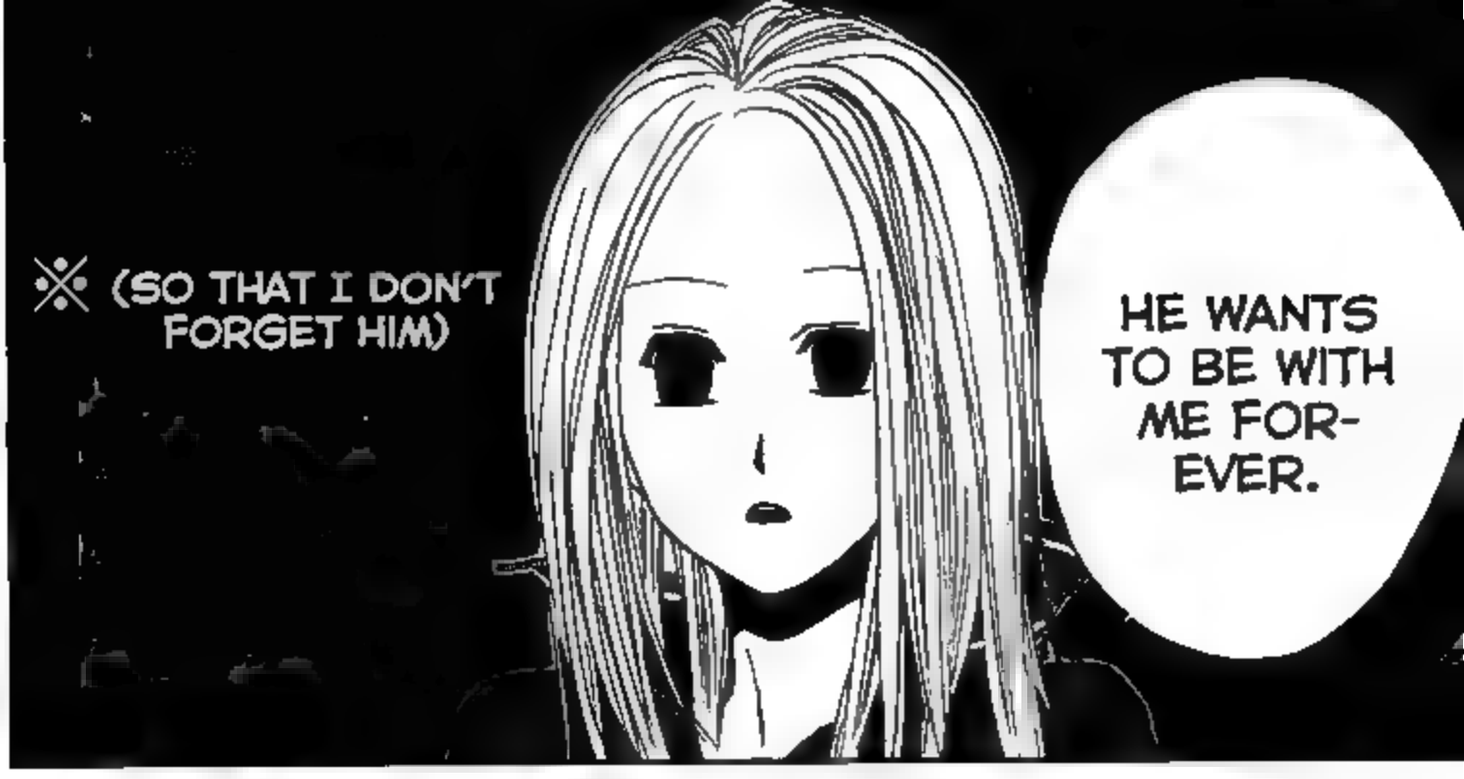


I FEEL UNEASY WHEN I SEE A MASK THAT CAN SHOW SUCH FACIAL EXPRESSIONS.
Huh..?

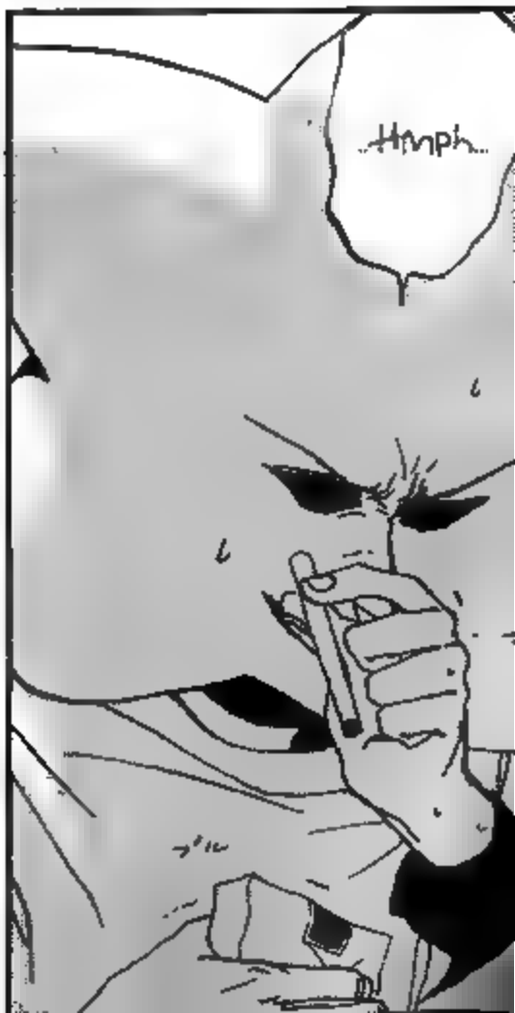
Chapter 16 Transformation







TN: HE REFERS TO THE PREVIOUS PANEL



CAN YOU DO SOMETHING?
I MEAN...
SOME KIND OF PERFORMANCE?
FOR EXAMPLE, BATTING, BELLY DANCE AND SO ON.
Eh, why are you asking me?
I'D WATCH IT.
I have no obligation to do it.
I WON'T DO IT.
I ALSO WANT TO WATCH.
ME TOO.

I really won't do anything like this!

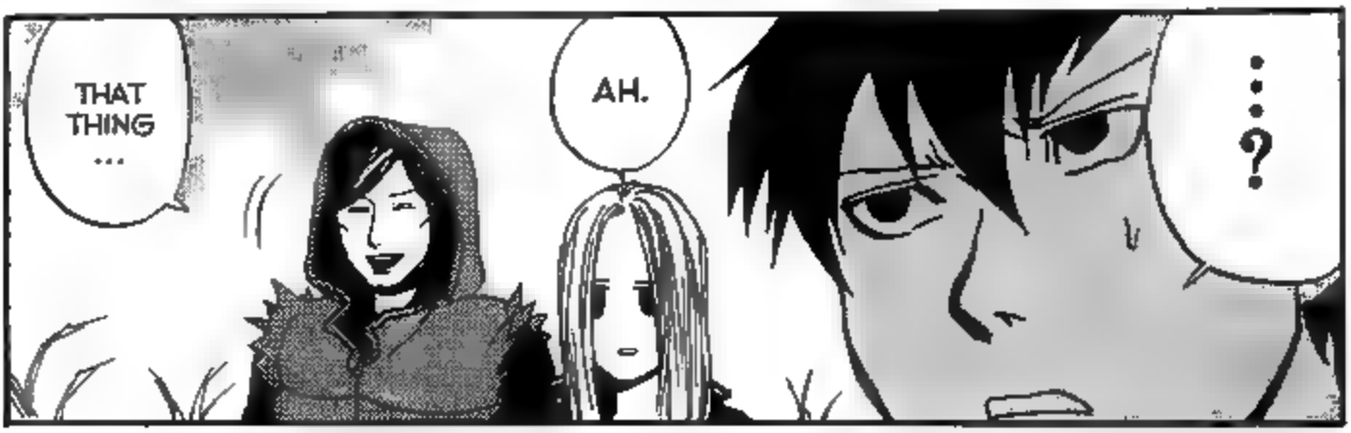
WE WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
Why are you acting like ill-bred members of some sports club teasing a freshman?

SURE.
CHIEF, CAN YOU MAKE SOME PERFORMANCE?

DO...
I CAN...

I DON'T HAVE ANY-THING TO LAUGH AT TO BEGIN WITH!
WE WON'T LAUGH AT YOU.

TRANS-
FORMA-
TION!
THE


THAT THING ...
AH.
...?

FIRST,
EH?

WHEN I SAW IT FOR THE FIRST TIME,
THAT'S REALLY COOL...
IT COM-
PLETELY
BLEW MY
MIND!

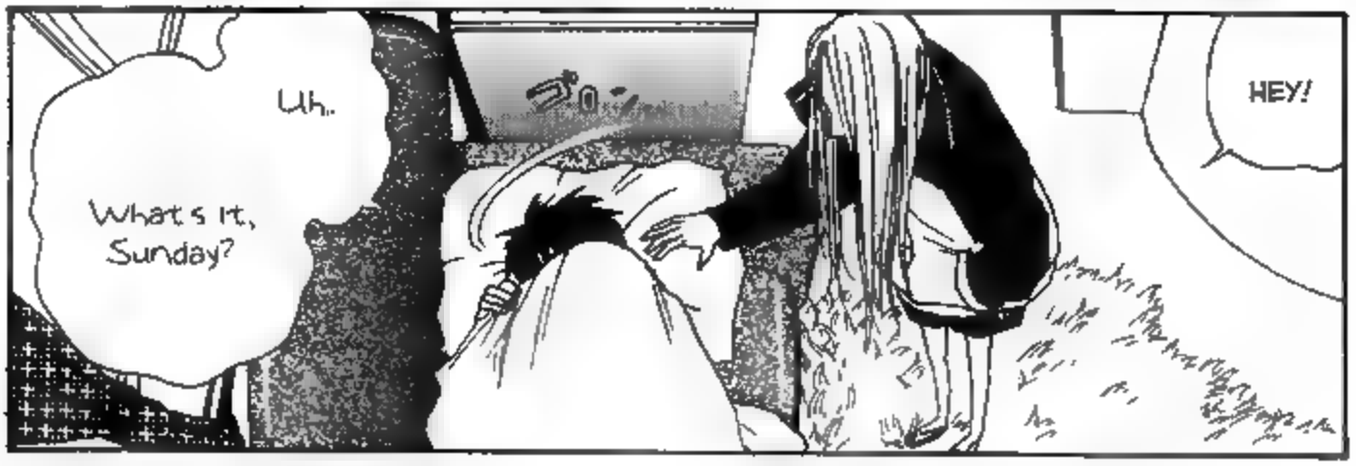
AND CLOSED THE COVER AND THEN, AFTER 10 SECONDS
CHIEF HID IN A CARDBOARD BOX
C'BO
みかん

WHEN THE BOX OPENED,
A GREAT ILLUSION OF A GOOD-LOOKING YOUNG MAN WEARING JEANS CAME OUT FROM IT!

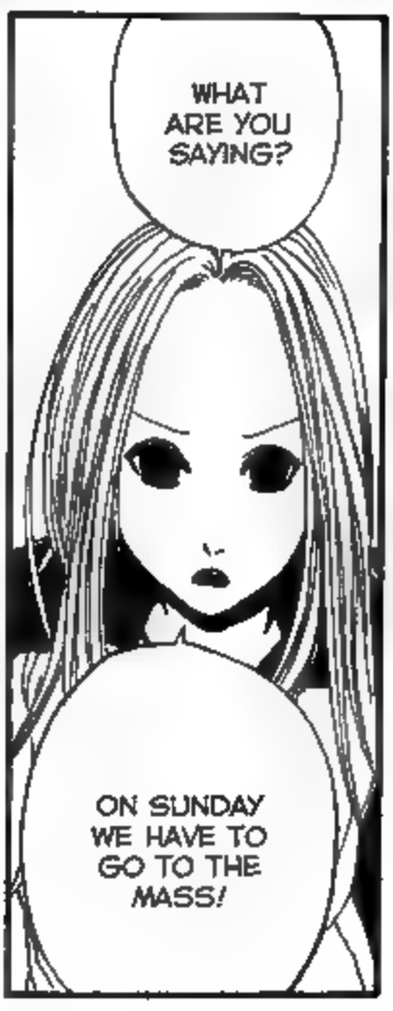
I RESERVE IT FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS.
Hahaha can't
SHOW IT AGAIN, CHIEF!
THAT WAS AMAZING.

I TRIED TO PUT ON A FACE OF A GOOD-LOOKING YOUNG MAN AND SCOWLED AT HIM.
Didn't he just take his costume off?

RICK.
GET UP!
TODAY IS SUNDAY!


HEY!
Uh..
What's it, Sunday?

Ma.

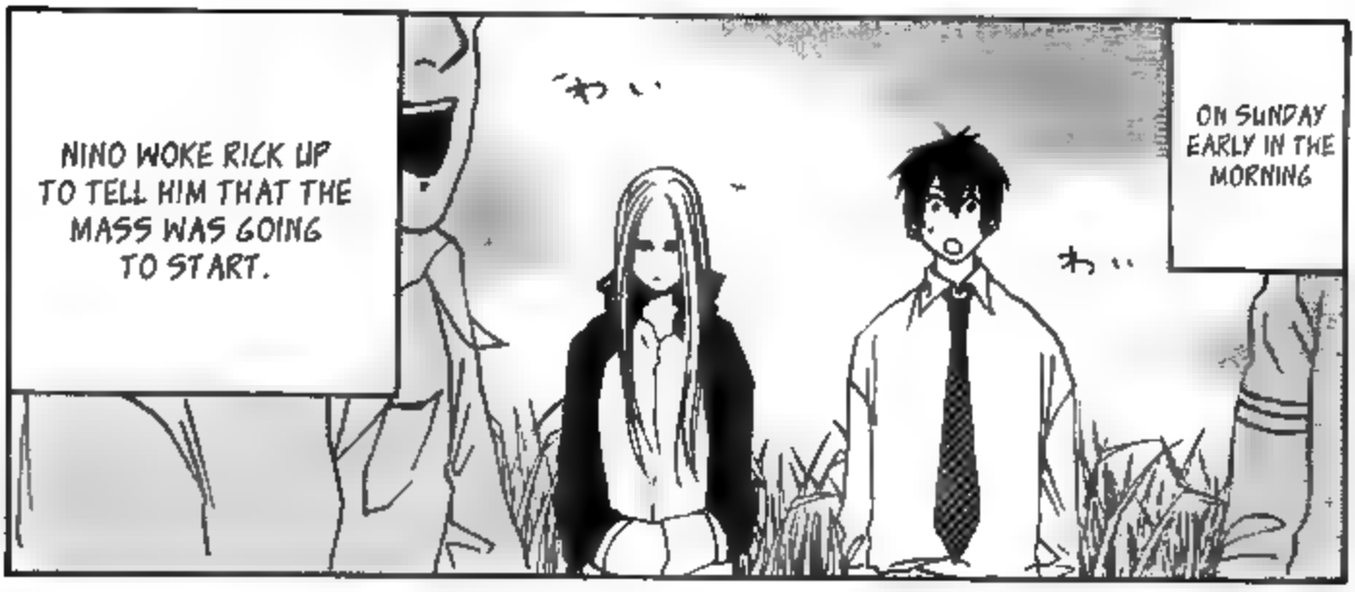

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
ON SUNDAY WE HAVE TO GO TO THE MASS!

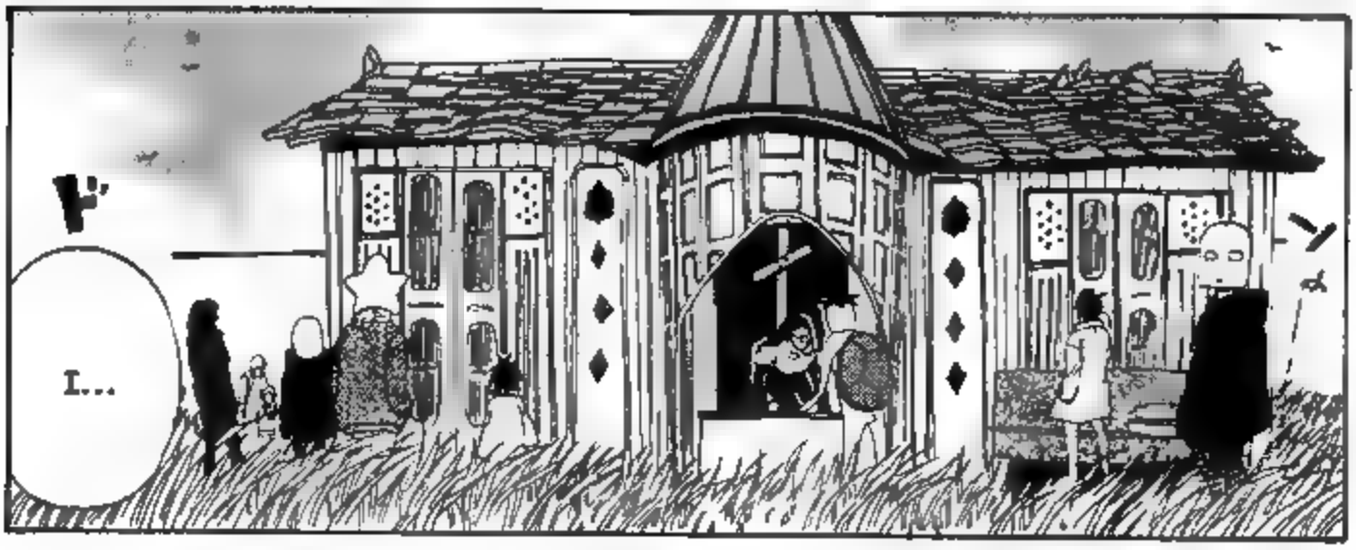
Doesn't Nino like to sleep long?
Sunday is the most appropriate day to sleep until late.

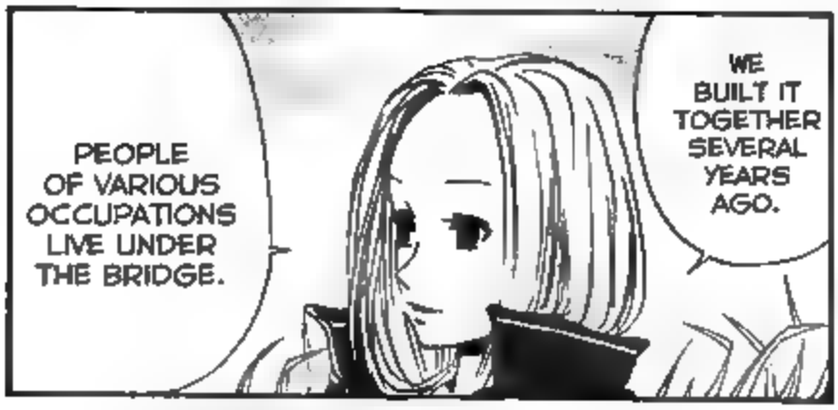
Mass?

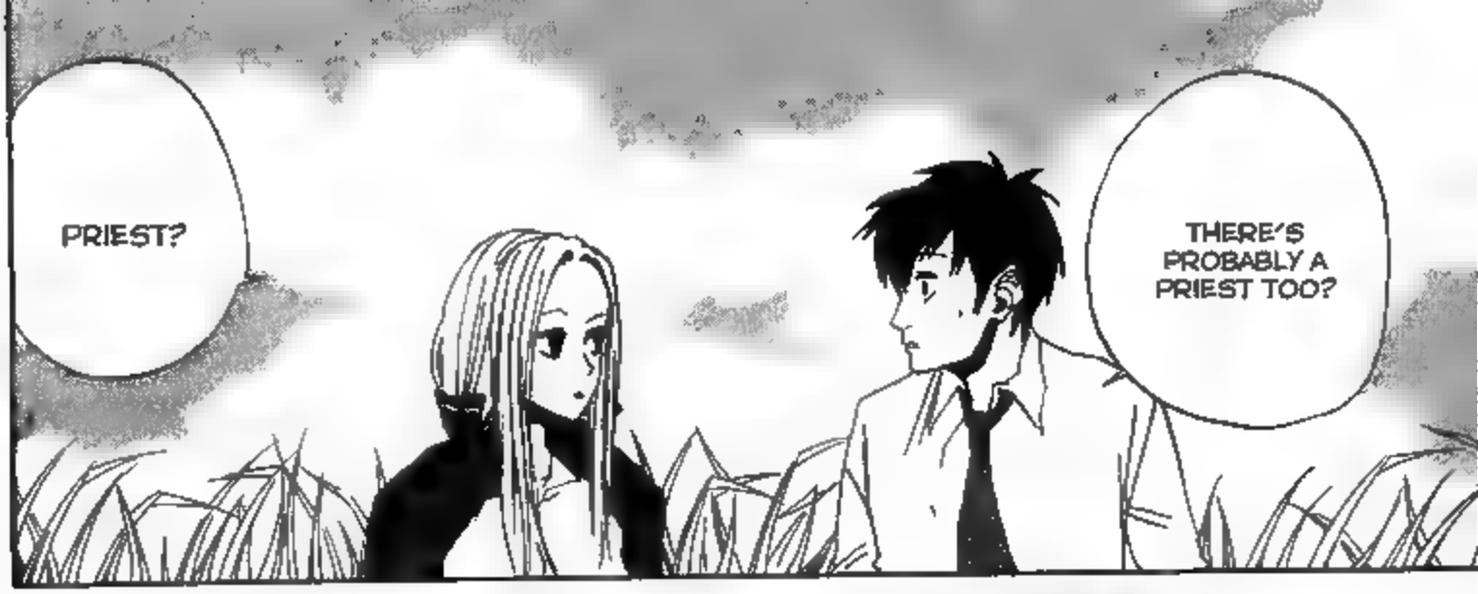
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

Chapter 17 Battle Sister



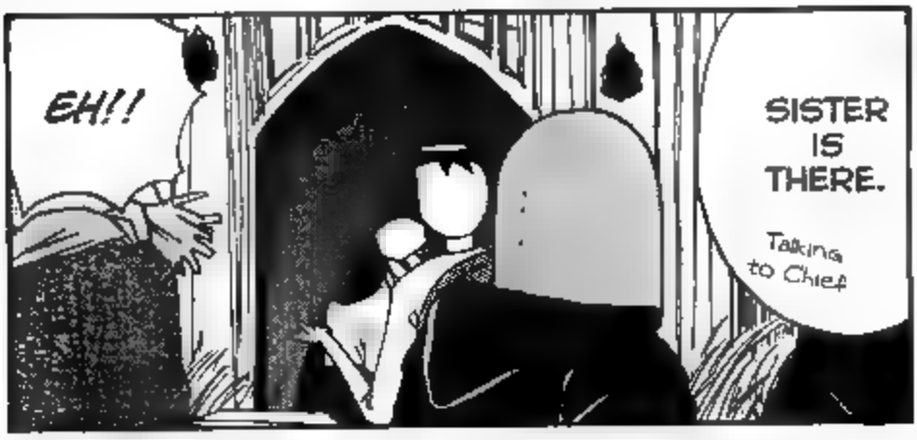




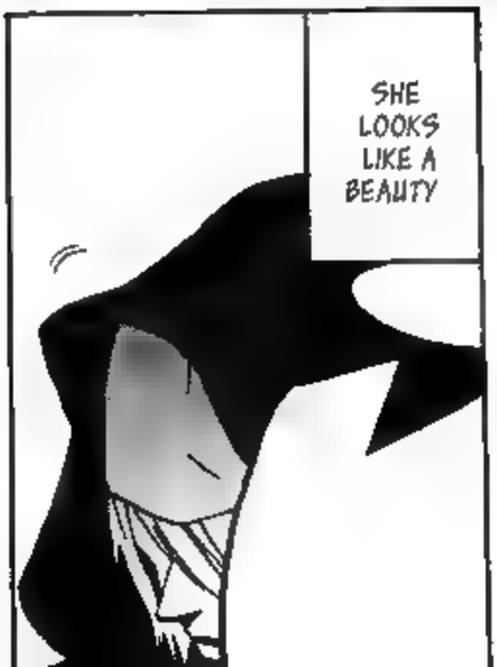

PRIEST?
THERE'S PROBABLY A PRIEST TOO?

I WONDER IF SHE IS A KIND PERSON, LIKE SAINT MARY
HUH...

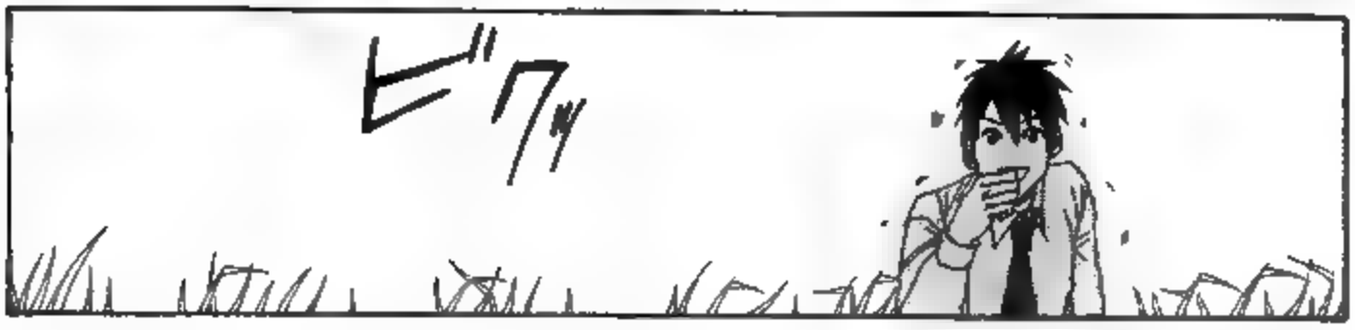
AH, YOU MEAN SISTER?
I MEAN, THE PERSON WHO HOLDS THE MASS.
OF COURSE THERE IS.


EH!!
SISTER IS THERE.
Talking to Chief

PERHAPS, THIS TIME
I'VE FINALLY REACHED AN OASIS...
LOOK, RICK.


SHE LOOKS LIKE A BEAUTY

どど
THAT PERSON ...
SOMEHOW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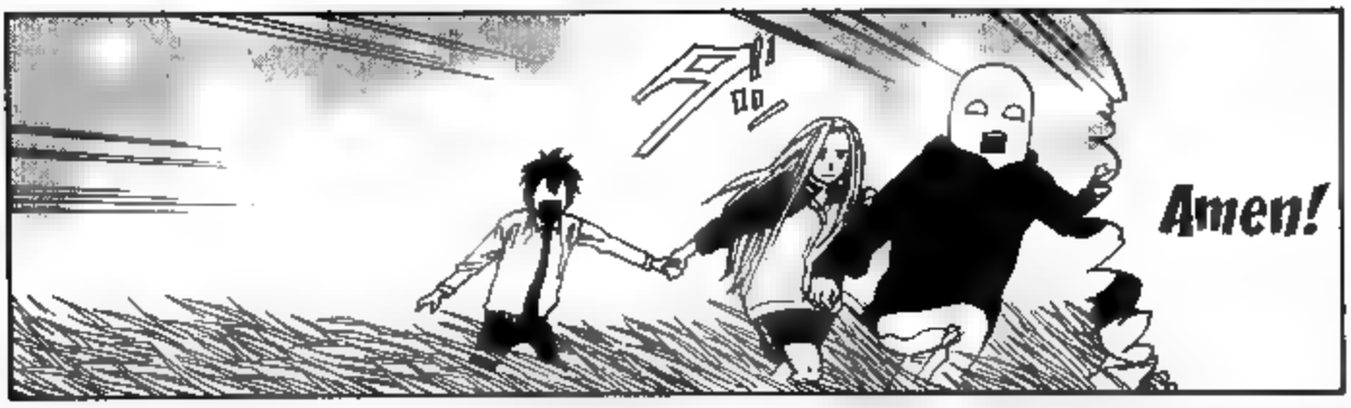
SISTER
COMMANDS YOU!

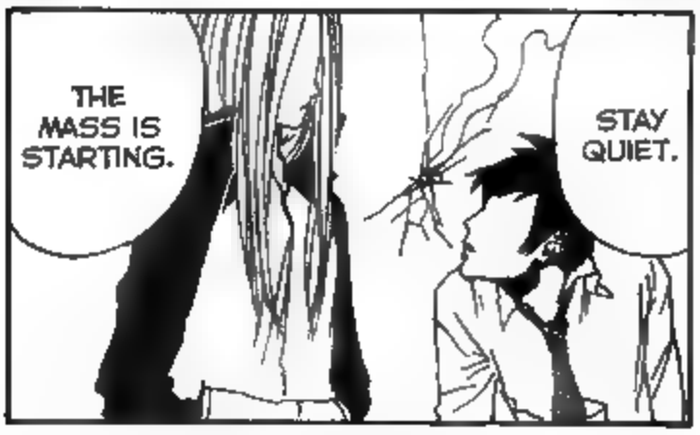
Everyone,
Line up!


Amen!

I THOUGHT THAT HE'S MORE LIKE A BROTHER, NOT A SISTER.
EEEEEE EEEH!!?

DIDN'T SEEM TO BE A PERSON WHO HEALS PEOPLE'S HEARTS.
THE SISTER IN THE CHURCH UNDER THE BRIDGE

BE SILENT, RICK.
NI...NI...NI... NINO, WHO IS THIS PERSON?


THE MASS IS STARTING.
STAY QUIET.

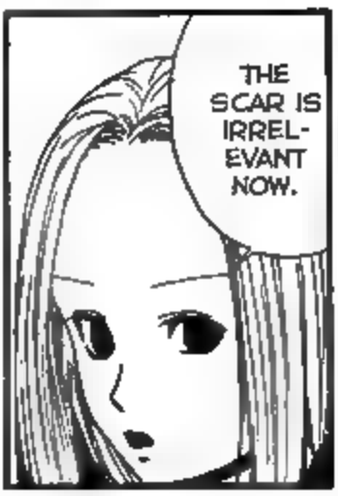
THAT GUN ISN'T A REAL ONE, RIGHT? IT CAN'T BE..

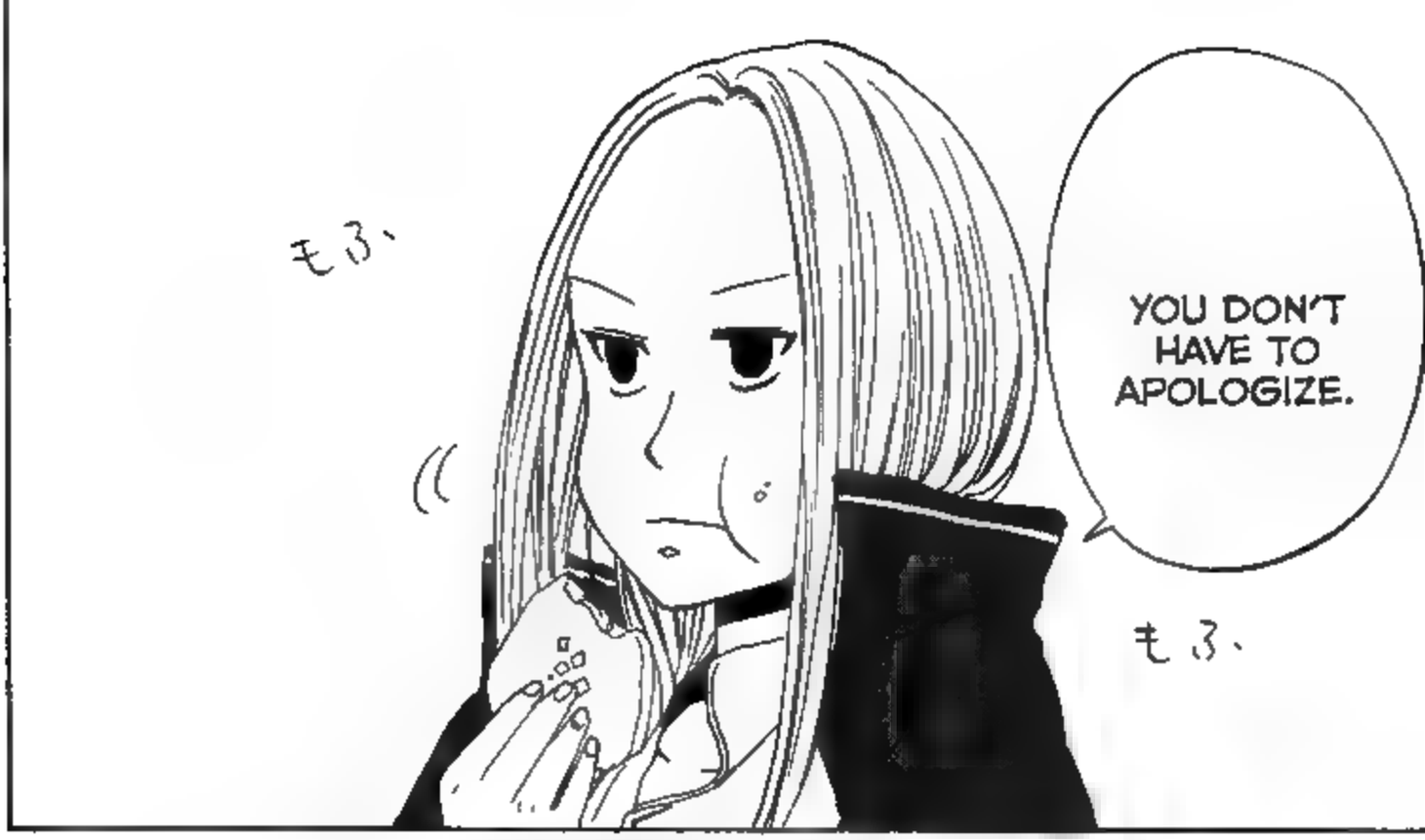
ALRIGHT.

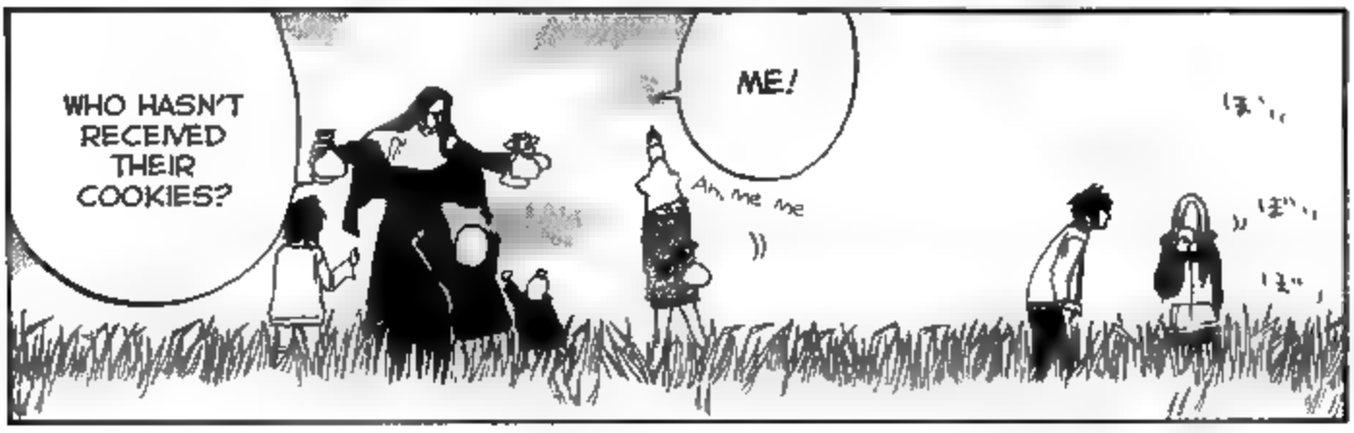
OKAY, NOBODY.
THOSE WHO'VE DONE SOMETHING BAD, RAISE YOUR HANDS!

Really?! Is that all?
Withdraw!

Chapter 19 The teachings of Jesus




YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE.

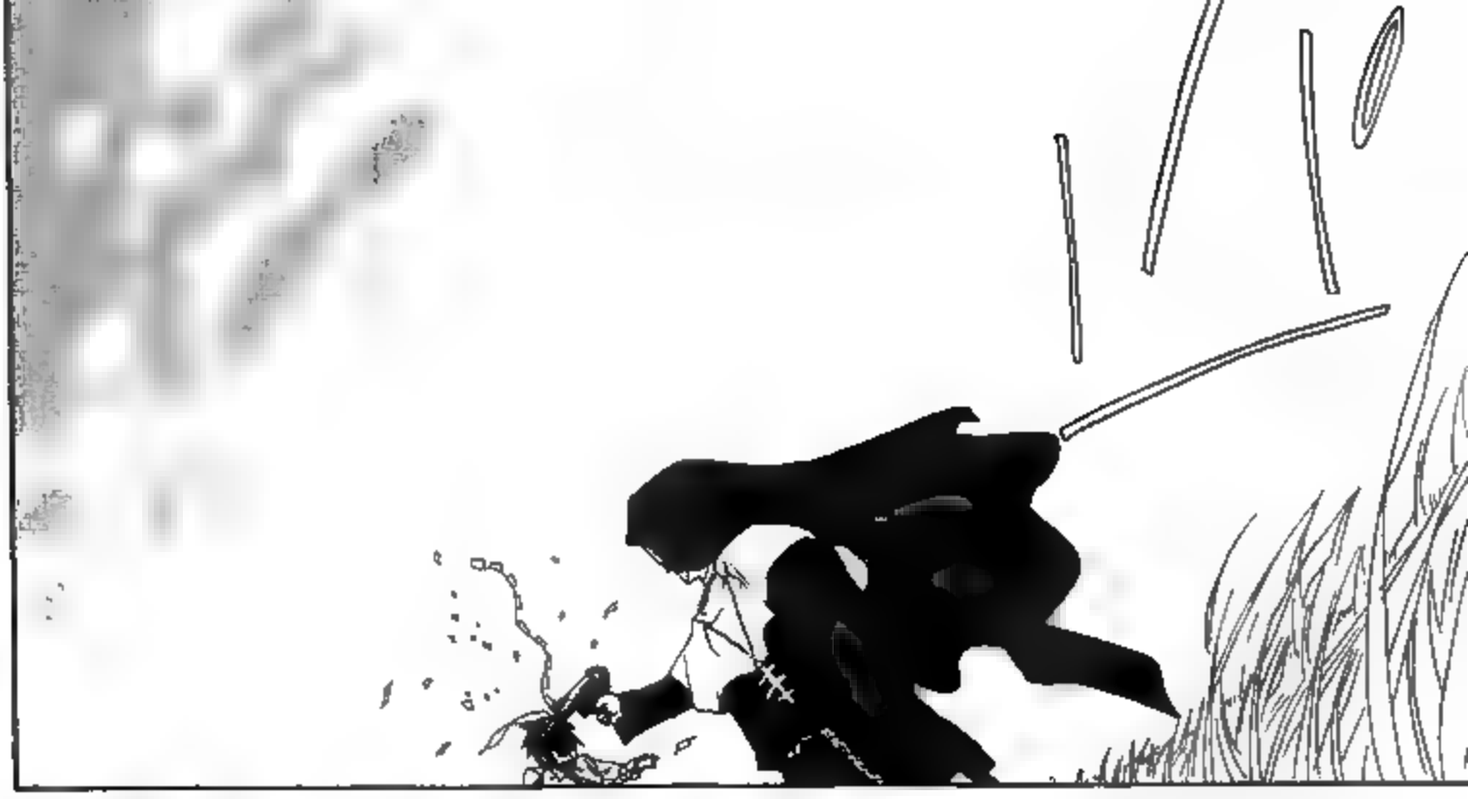

WHO HASN'T RECEIVED THEIR COOKIES?
ME!
Ah, me me

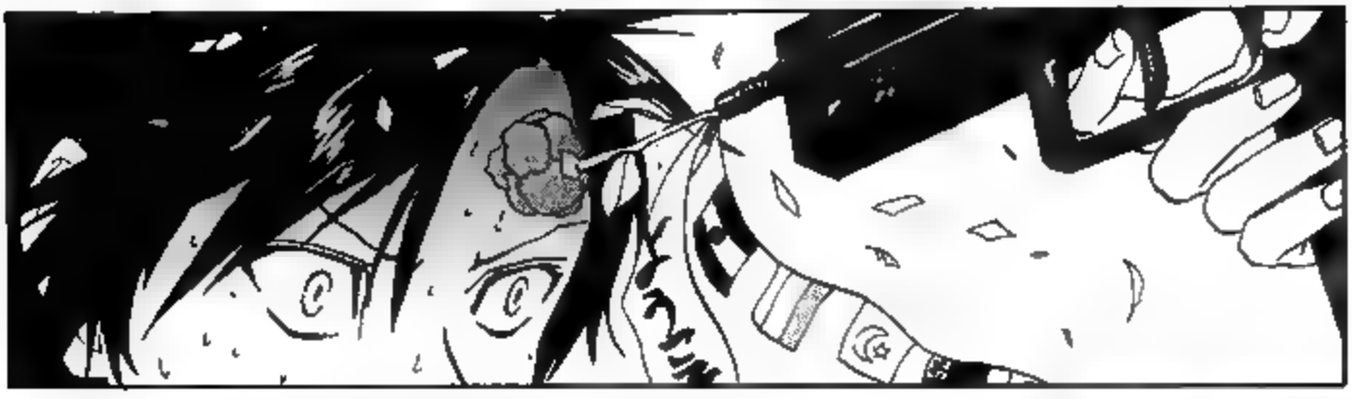
HEY!
I'm not envious about it!
You shouldn't act shy and take a cookie
NINO, HE'S DECEIVING YOU!

HE GIVES THEM FOOD?

THE BRAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT RECENTLY?
ARE YOU...

NINO'S PARTNER
ARE YOU RECRUIT?
Errrrm..
ANSWER ME!
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL TRY
EH!?
Is this gun real?
IS YOUR LOVE REAL?
THIS GUN ON YOUR HEAD.
Well..
I don't know about love, but..
My determination is real!





MAKE NINO HAPPY.

I'VE HEARD THE RUMORS.

WHAT'S THIS? IS HE A GOOD PERSON AFTER ALL?
YEAH...

OKAY.
I'LL DO MY BEST.
I can't argue..
STILL, THE SMELL OF POWDER...
I'LL PRETEND THAT IT'S JUST THE SMELL OF FIREWORKS.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE SPOKE ABOUT MY RELATIONSHIP WITH NINO AFFIRMATIVELY
MORE AND MORE PEOPLE CAME TO THE CONFESSION ROOM.
SINCE YOUR ARRIVAL,
UH,
THE RUMORS ...
Err, about those rumors.
What exactly have you heard?
Ohoho she's huge!
Smiling → with all his strength
EVERYONE IS SAYING THIS: ...
HUH?

"I'D PUNCH RECRUIT".

Ah, I see.
I was possessed by a devil
EVERYONE WAS AIMING AT YOU.

WELL, ...
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, YOU CAN COME ANY MOMENT.

I USUALLY STAY IN THE CHURCH.
THEY WERE HOLDING A GRUDGE AGAINST ME.

NINO CHOSE YOU.
YOU'LL GET USED TO THIS PLACE SOON.

Y yes.
ACTU-ALLY,
I DON'T FEEL THAT I WAS "CHOSEN"....

YOU'VE LOST YOUR WAY,
SO I'LL TEACH YOU SOME WORDS OF JESUS.

.....
.....
ALRIGHT, RECRUIT.

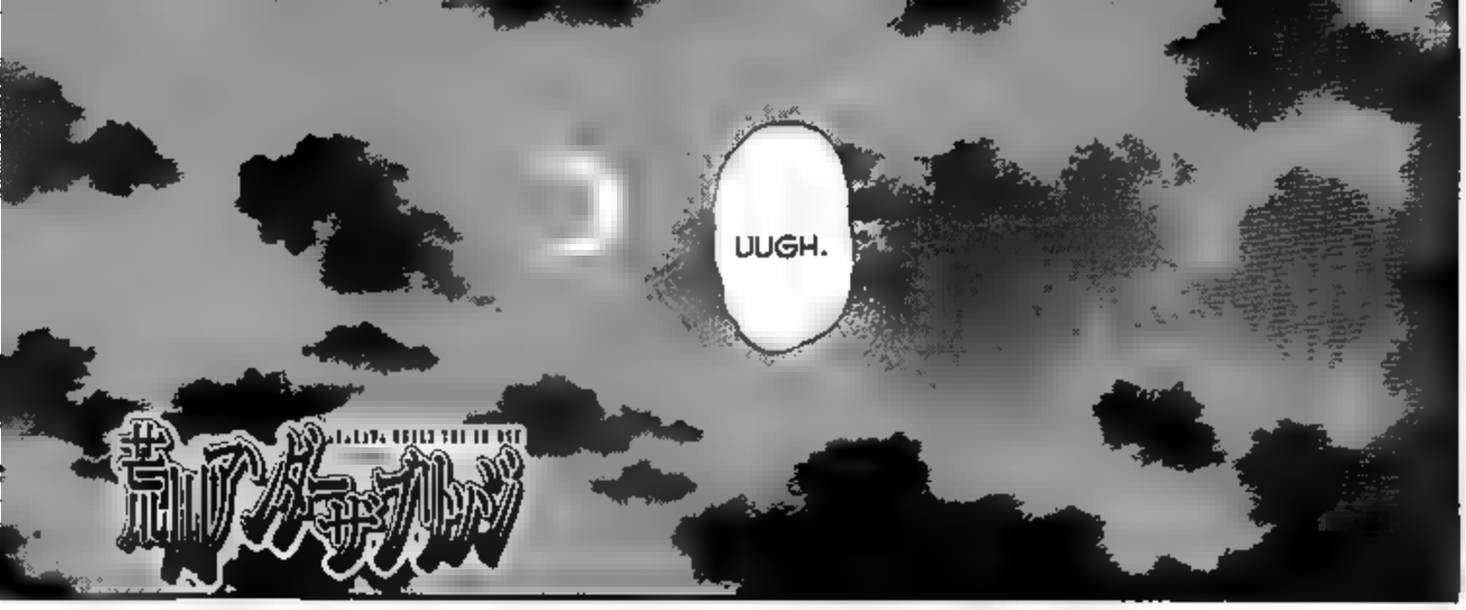
EH?
WHOEVER SHALL SMITE THEE ON THY RIGHT CHEEK,

TURN TO HIM THE OTHER ALSO.

EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT.
AND IF YOU CLENCH YOUR TEETH,

THAT'S IT.

OASIS IS FAR AWAY.
Are you implying that I'll be punched anyway!?


UUGH.

SO HEAVY...

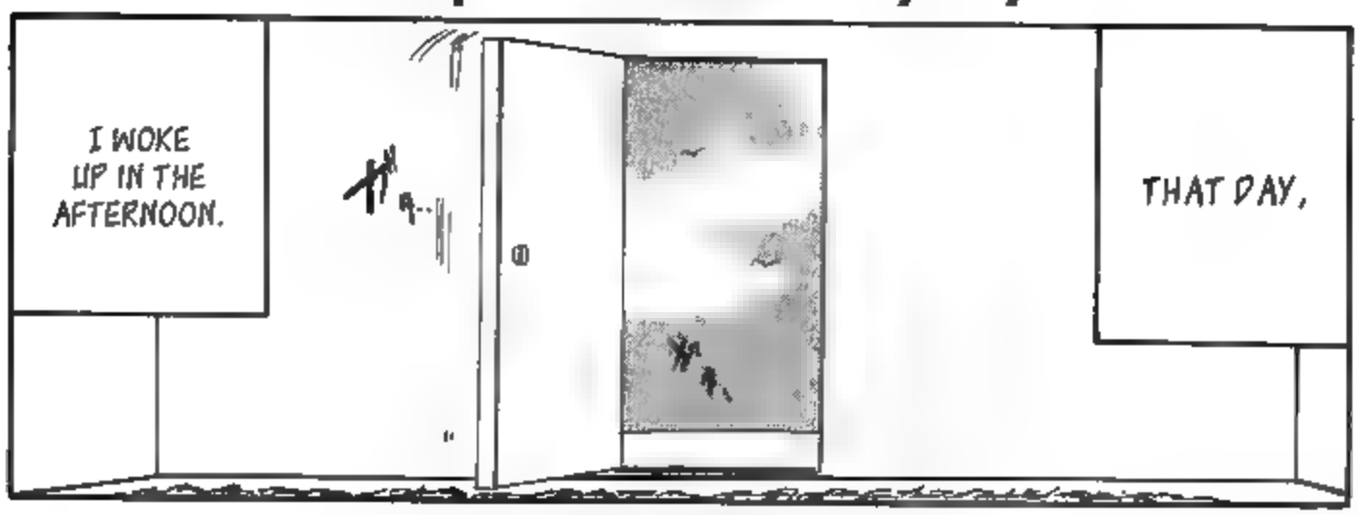
I CAN'T TURN!?
!?

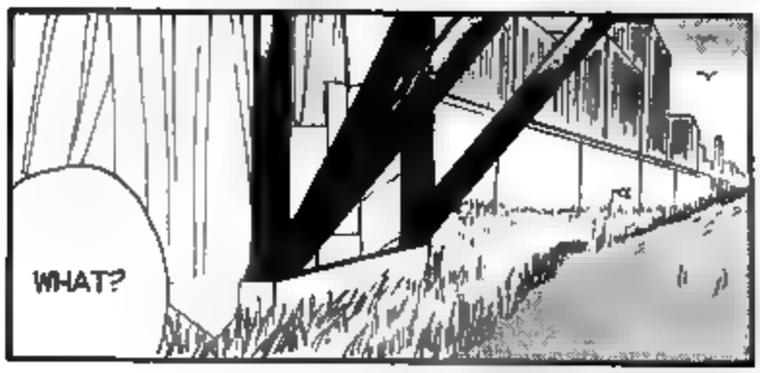
WHAT'S THIS PAIN?
IT'S COLD
uuugh..

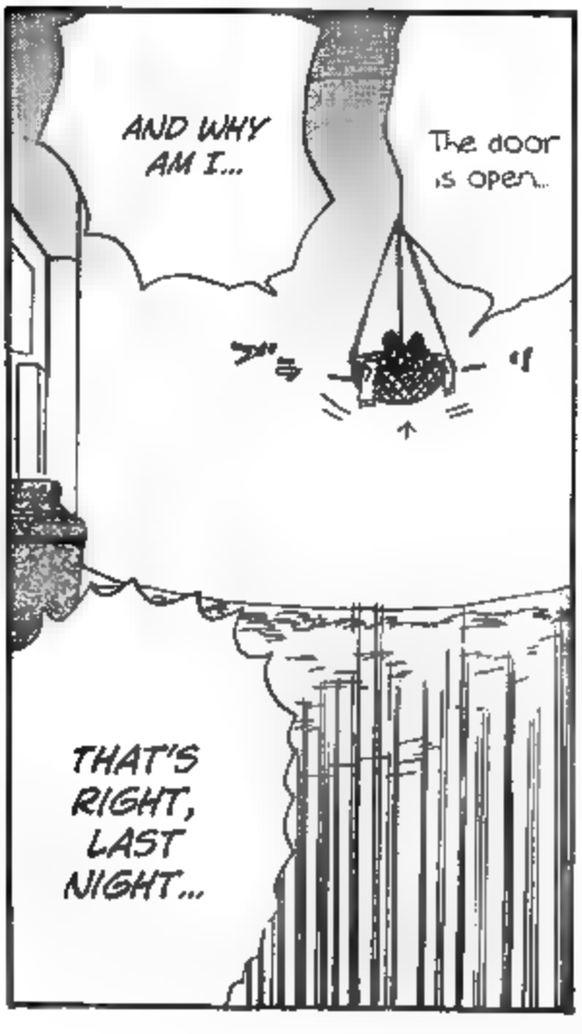
IT'S LIKE SOMETHING IS LYING OVER MY BODY

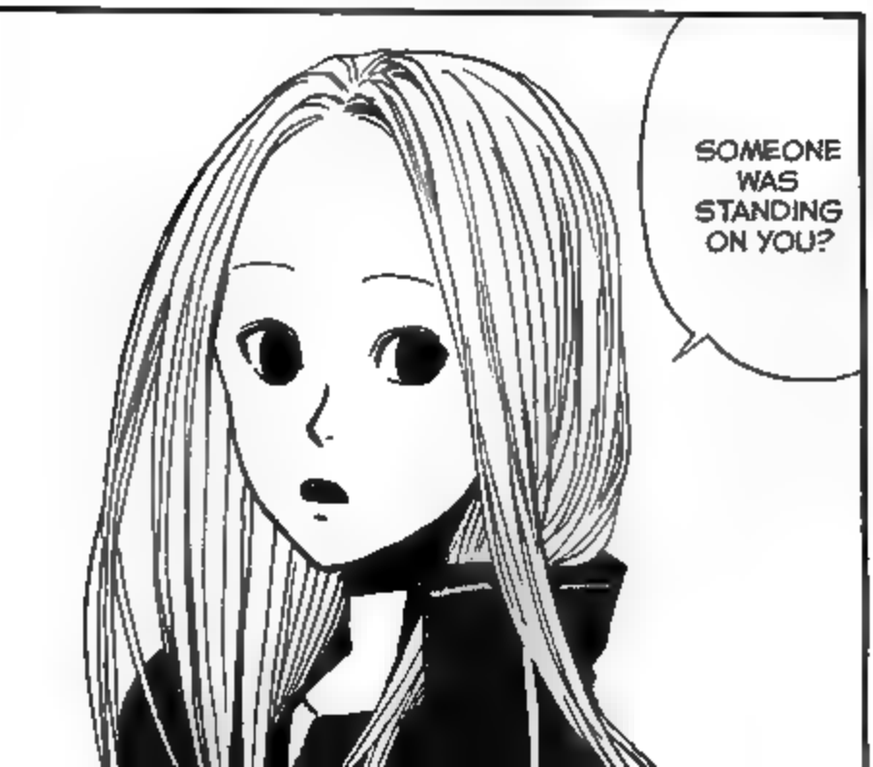
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

Chapter 20 Midwinter mystery

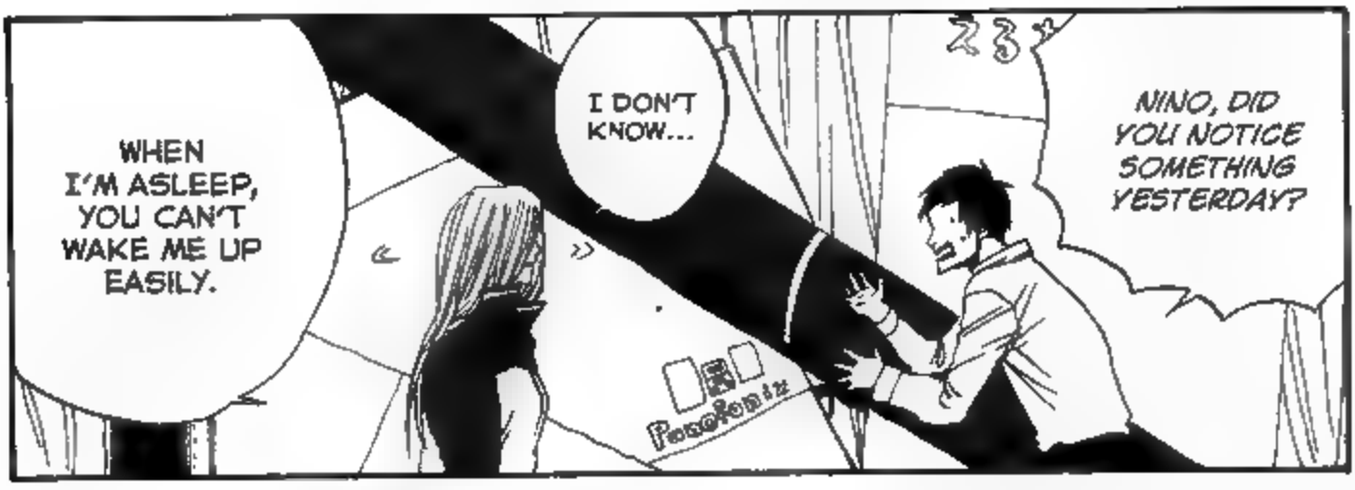




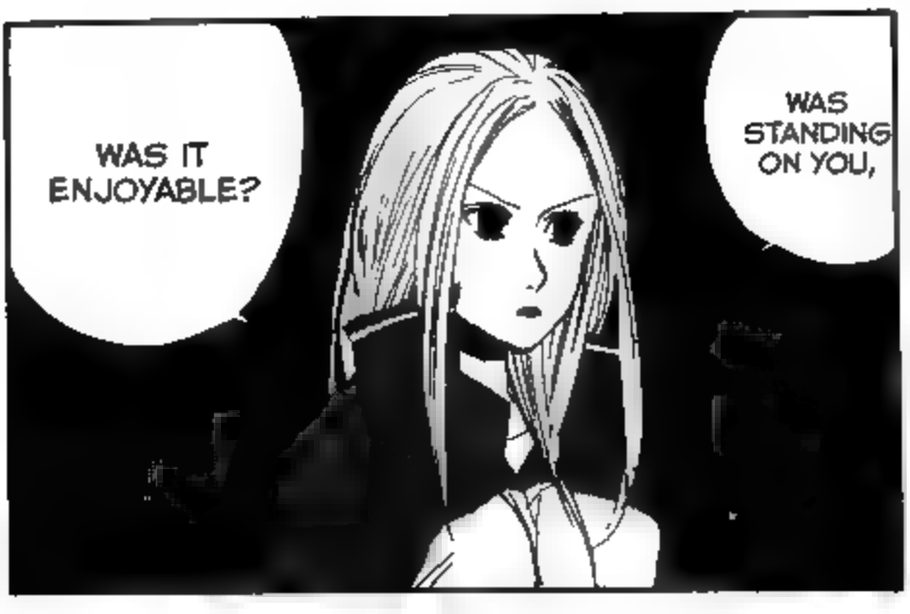


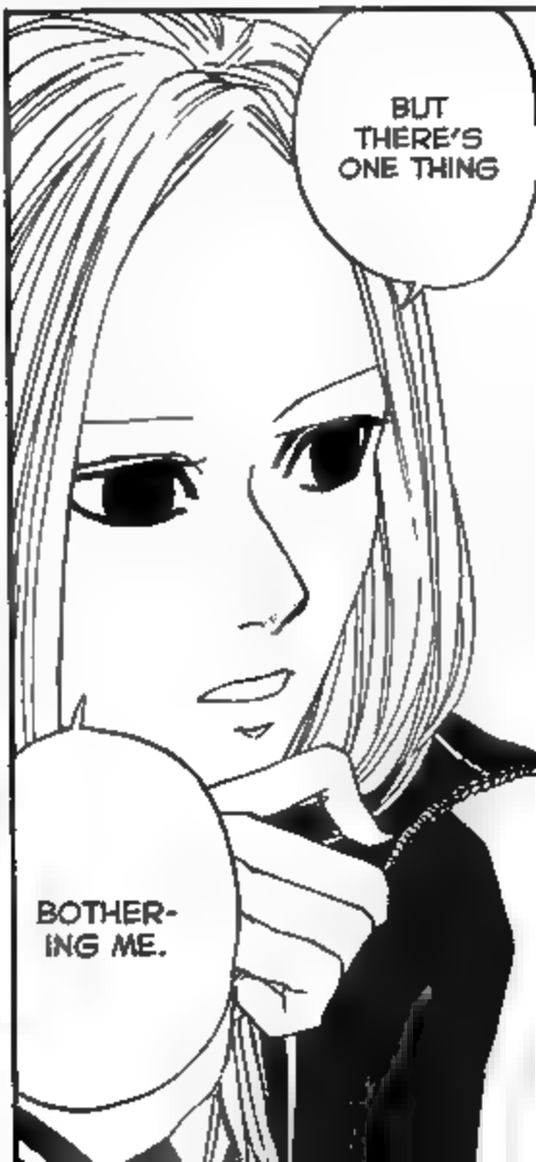


SOME MYSTERIOUS MAN WEARING A MANTLE!
I'M SURE!


WHEN I'M ASLEEP, YOU CAN'T WAKE ME UP EASILY.
I DON'T KNOW...
NINO, DID YOU NOTICE SOMETHING YESTERDAY?

WHEN THAT GUY ...
WHAT'S IT?


WAS IT ENJOYABLE?
WAS STANDING ON YOU,

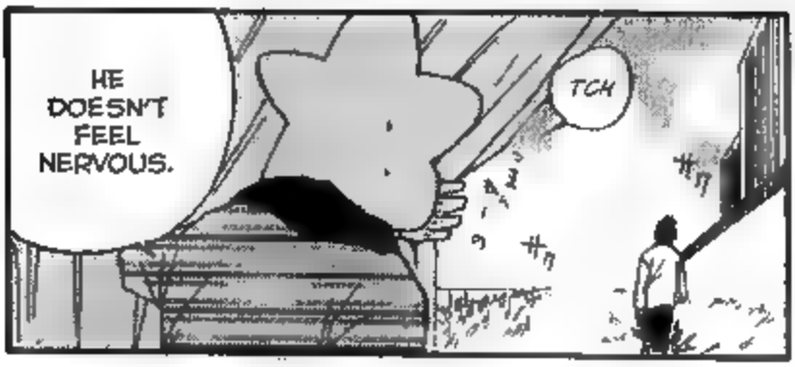

BUT THERE'S ONE THING
BOTHER-ING ME.

I THINK IT WASN'T EASY TO KEEP BALANCE WHILE STANDING ON ME.
OR MAYBE HE WANTED TO ACHIEVE SOME-THING?
WHO AND WHY COULD HAVE DONE SUCH THING.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW
I'D CUT ONE THIRD OF YOUR HAIR.
IF IT WERE ME,
COULD ...
COULD IT BE THE STAR GUY TRYING TO PUNCH ME?
I'VE SEEN A RUDE NECKTIE ENTERING NINO'S ROOM...
When did you come here? Star.
THAT'S TOO SOFT!

TN: "GHOST" IS PRONOUNCED AS "OBAKE"

THAT'S STUPID.
HMPH.

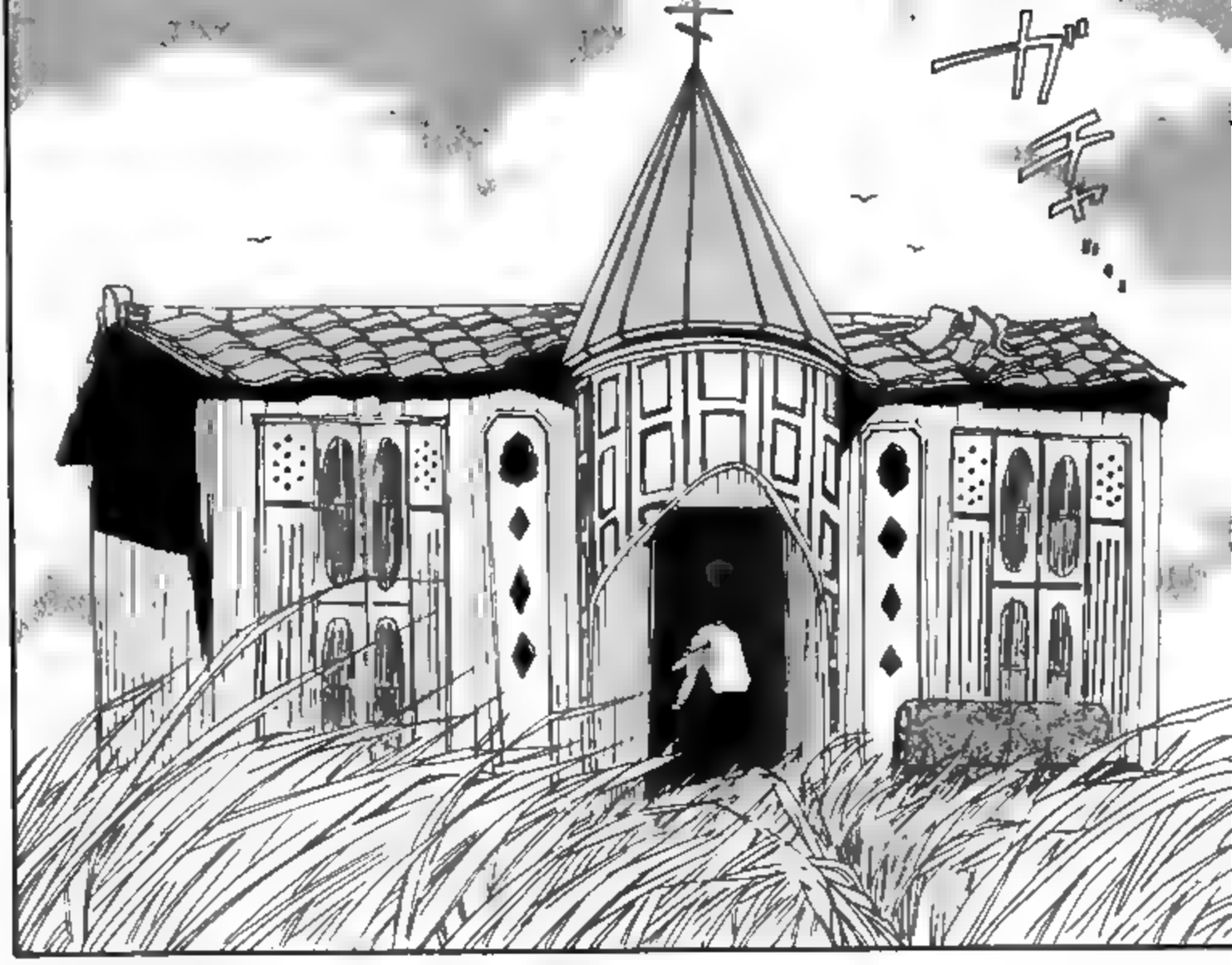
DIDN'T YOU SEE IT YOURSELF?
BUT...
SORRY, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE ANYTHING UNLESS I SEE IT WITH MY OWN EYES.


HE DOESN'T FEEL NERVOUS.
TCH

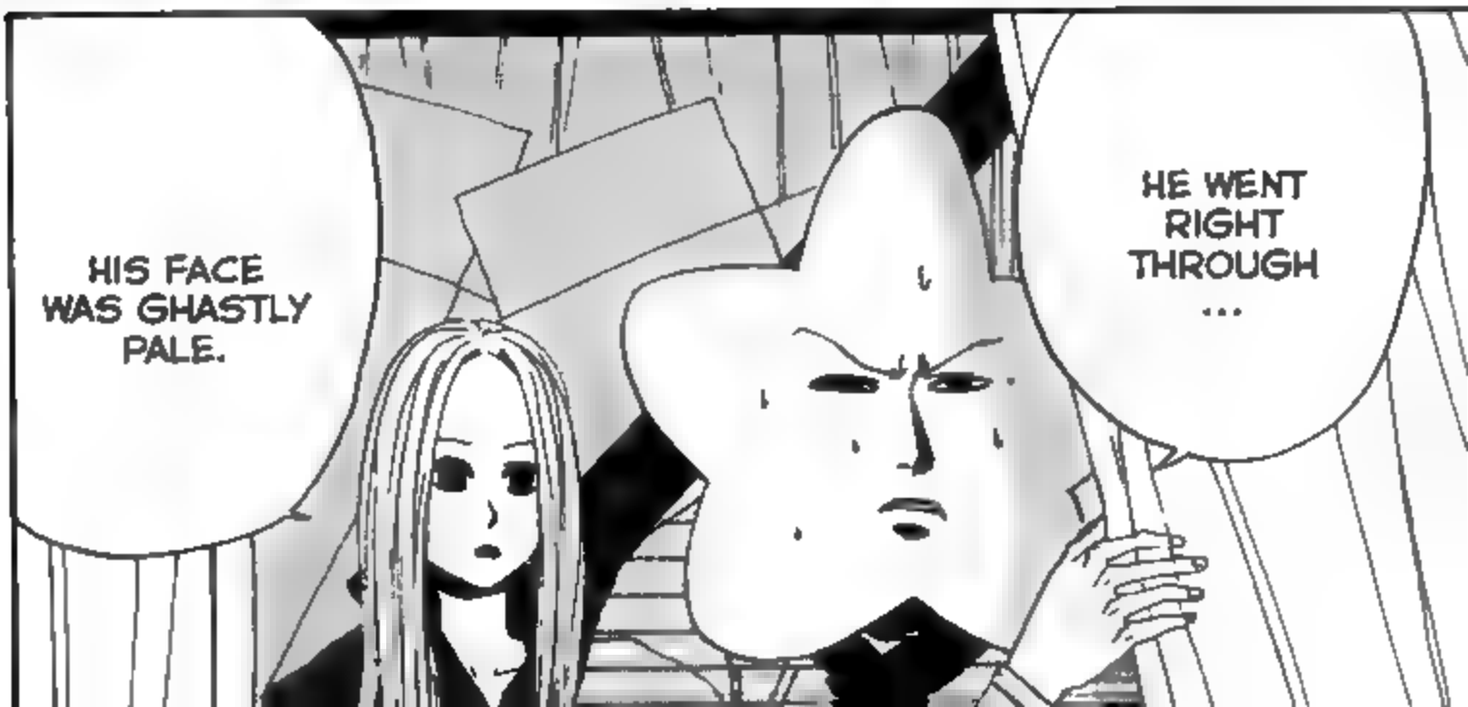
I THINK YOU SHOULD ASK SISTER FOR ADVICE ON SUCH PROBLEMS.
HA HA HA
I SEE. THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
THEN, NINO, I'LL BE GOING.

A REALIST...

ANYWAY, HE SEEMS TO BE



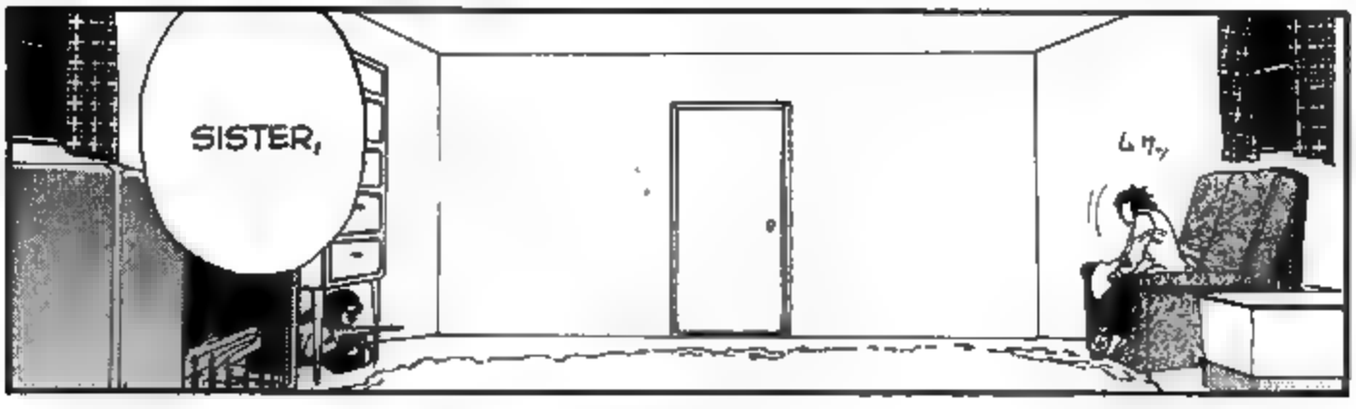
SISTER...
Intruder spotted!
YOU'RE WRONG, IT'S ME!


HIS FACE WAS GHASTLY PALE.
HE WENT RIGHT THROUGH ...

Chapter 21 Solution

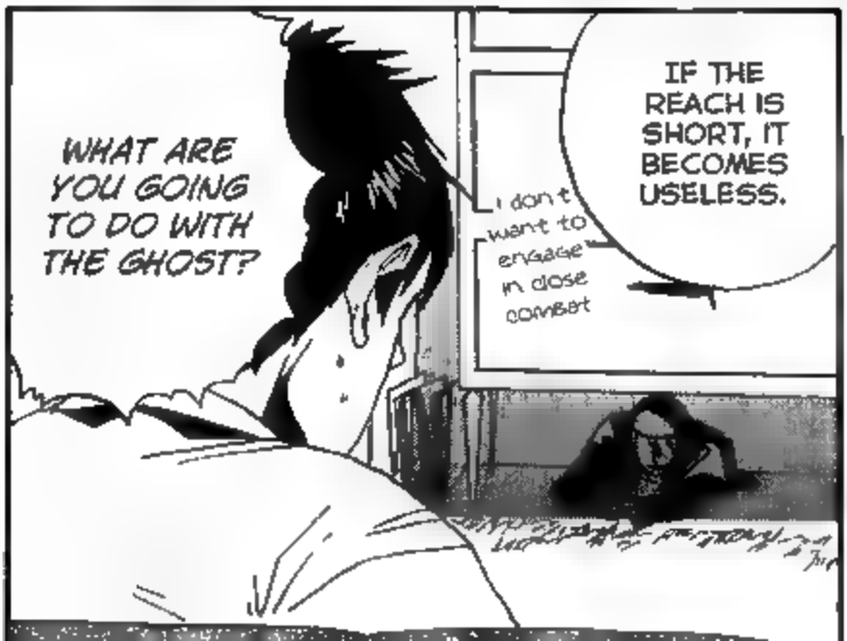
AND CAME TO SISTER FOR ADVICE.
If you don't wish to die, knock
RICK THOUGHT THAT THE PERSON WHO APPEARED IN HIS ROOM THE PREVIOUS NIGHT WAS A GHOST

Delongue
GOOD NIGHT


SISTER,

AH,
THAT THING.
SHOULDN'T YOU USE A CRUCIFIX?

WHEN YOU SAY "GOOD NIGHT" WHILE POINTING A GUN THIS WAY, IT SOUNDS FRIGHTENING.
I MEAN, WHY DO YOU HAVE TO USE IT?
A GHOST IS GOING TO APPEAR.


WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THE GHOST?
IF THE REACH IS SHORT, IT BECOMES USELESS.
I don't want to engage in close combat

I BELIEVE ONLY IN MY BULLETS.
WOULD YOU SNIPE THE GOD, TOO?
He isn't small, how did he manage to get there?
IT WON'T HIT IT, IT'S A GHOST!

I USE IT ONLY WHEN I CAN'T REACH OTHER-WISE.
DON'T YELL.

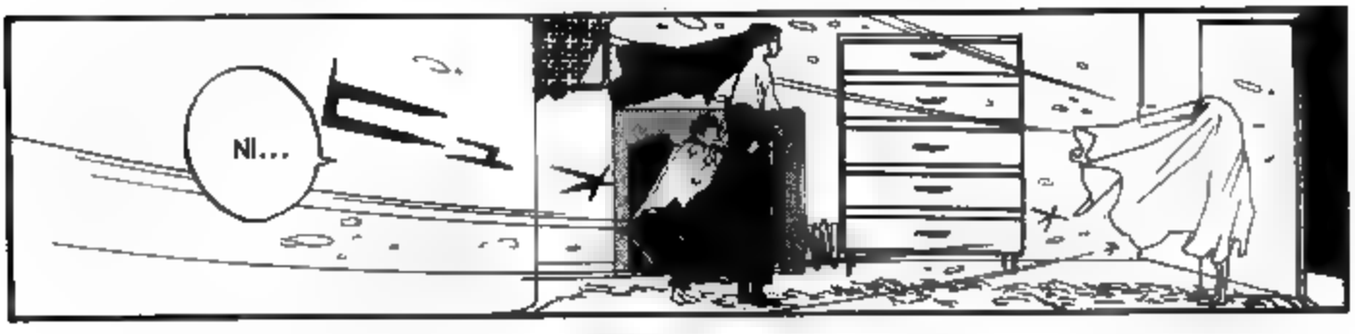
SNOW.
WHAT'S THIS...

I CAN SENSE THE LOCATION OF THE GHOST THIS WAY.
EH!?

HUH...?

AT THIS RATE SHE'LL COME TODAY, TOO.

COUGH

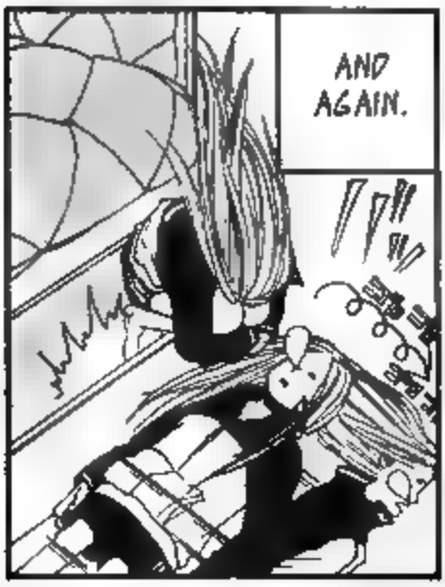

NI...

LOOKS LIKE SHE IS SLEEPWALK-ING.
Is she sleeping?

USUALLY IT HAPPENS IN SUMMER...
I'D CALL IT "ACROBATIC SLEEPING POSE"

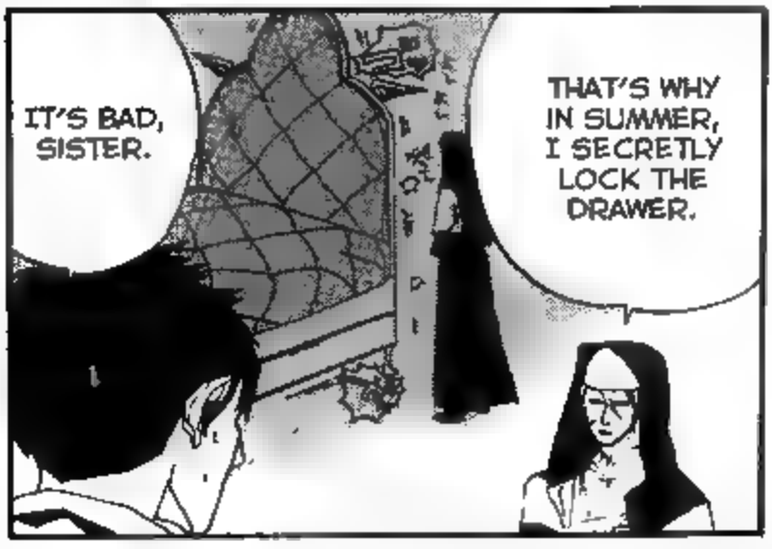
Nino!?
I SEE ...

SHE TURNS OVER SEARCHING FOR A COLD SPOT.
COLD PART
PART WARMED BY THE BODY
WHEN IT'S HOT,


AND AGAIN.

AND AGAIN

WHEN IT BECOMES WARM,
COLD
SHE TURNS OVER AGAIN
WARM / TEPID


IT'S BAD, SISTER.
THAT'S WHY IN SUMMER, I SECRETLY LOCK THE DRAWER.

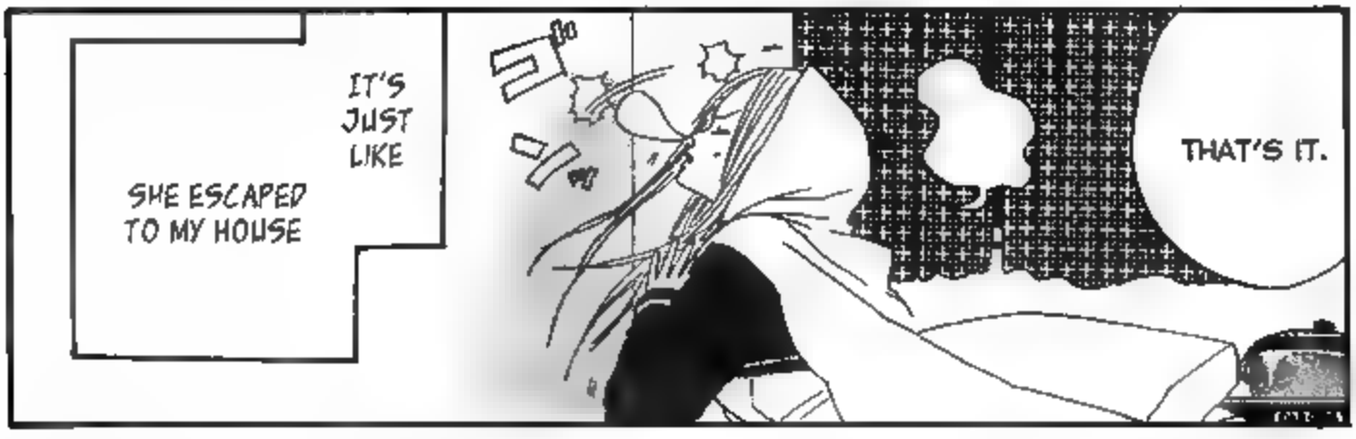
AND SOMEHOW SHE ALWAYS RETURNS TO HER ROOM BEFORE SHE WAKES UP.
UNTIL A CERTAIN PLACE

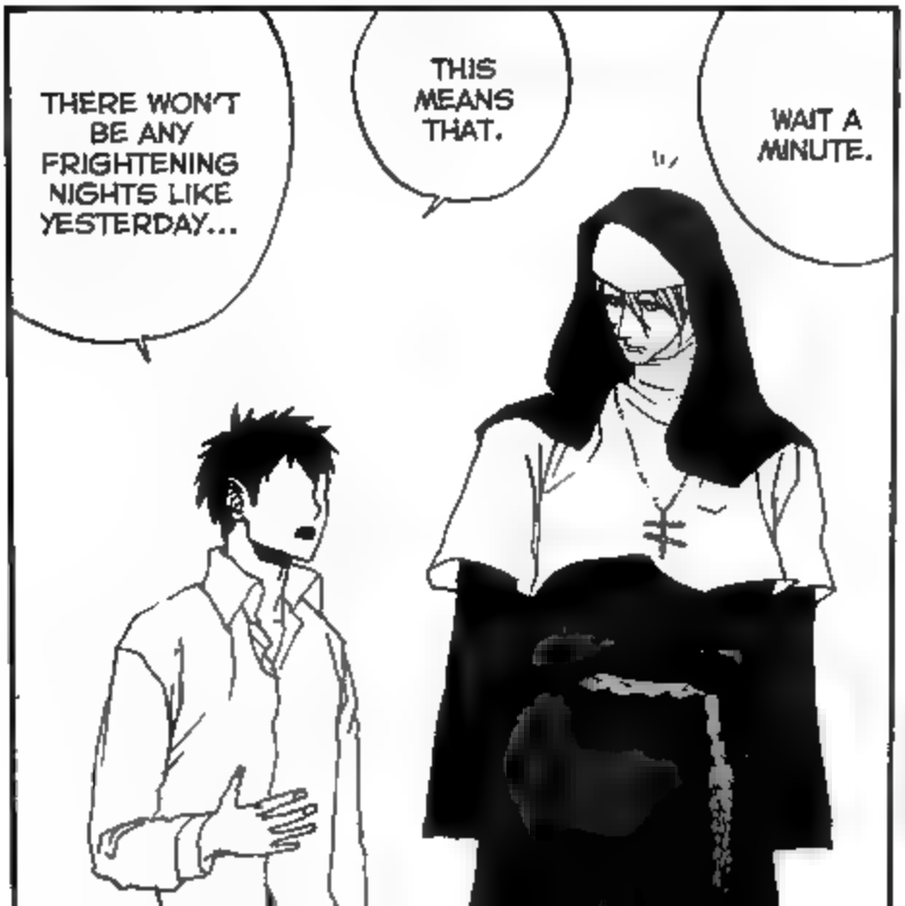
AH, MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE IT WAS SUDDENLY COLD TODAY?
BUT WHY MY ROOM.

It's dangerous!

AH
BUT NOW HER BODY SENSED THAT IT'S WARM IN YOUR HOUSE.

IT'S COLD OUTSIDE.
BEFORE, SHE RETURNED TO HER HOUSE EVENTUALLY.


IT'S JUST LIKE SHE ESCAPED TO MY HOUSE
THAT'S IT.

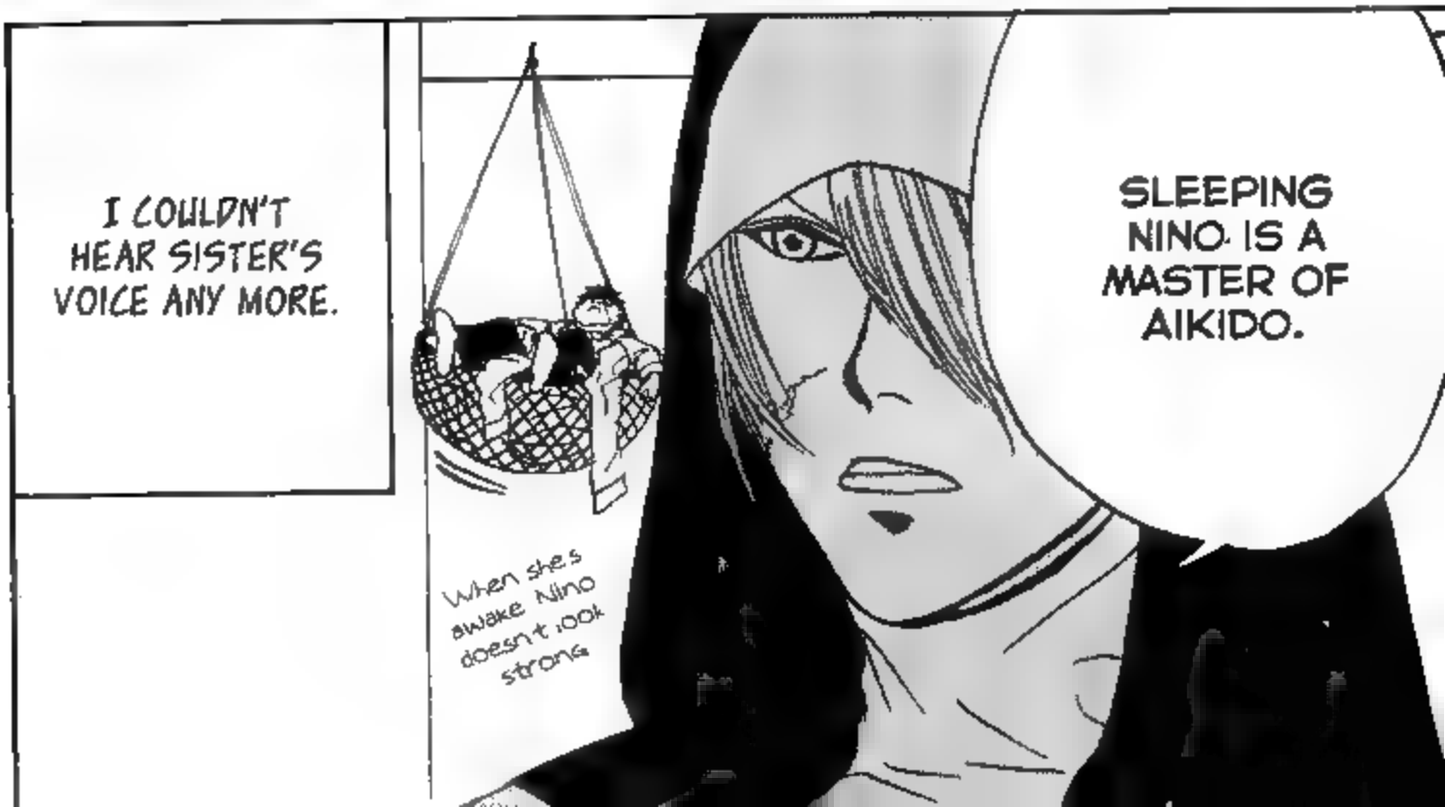

THERE WON'T BE ANY FRIGHTENING NIGHTS LIKE YESTERDAY...
THIS MEANS THAT.
WAIT A MINUTE.

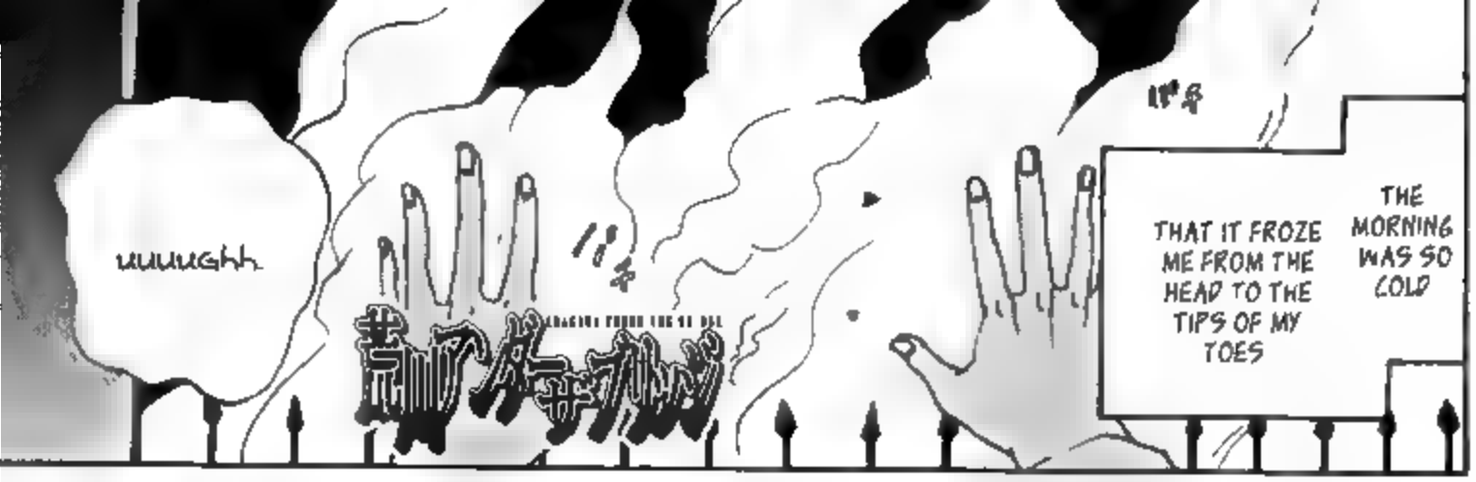
I'M A LITTLE HAPPY
EH?

THEY'LL BECOME EXCITING ROMANTIC NIGHTS?
!?
INSTEAD,
THAT'S PROBABLY...
AH!
It was the worst morning
WHY DID I WAKE UP IN THAT PLACE?
HAHA, NINO.
IF YOU DON'T COVER YOURSELF WITH A BLANKET, YOU'LL BE FREEZING...
ナデ
HAVE A LOOK, IT SEEMS THAT SHE'S CALMED DOWN.
NINO! WHA...
EH!?

YES

Guh...
IT'S DANGEROUS TO BE NEAR HER WHEN SHE'S ASLEEP.

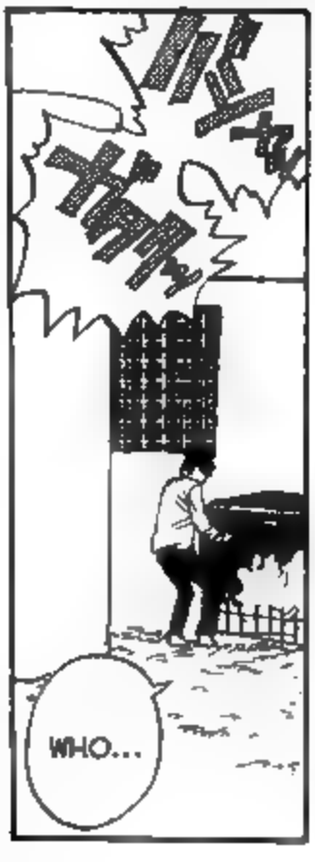

I COULDN'T HEAR SISTER'S VOICE ANY MORE.
When she's awake Nino doesn't look strong
SLEEPING NINO IS A MASTER OF AIKIDO.


uuuughh
THE MORNING WAS SO COLD
THAT IT FROZE ME FROM THE HEAD TO THE TIPS OF MY TOES

ON SUCH DAY, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING BUT STAY AT HOME...

..AH, THAT'S NOTH-ING...

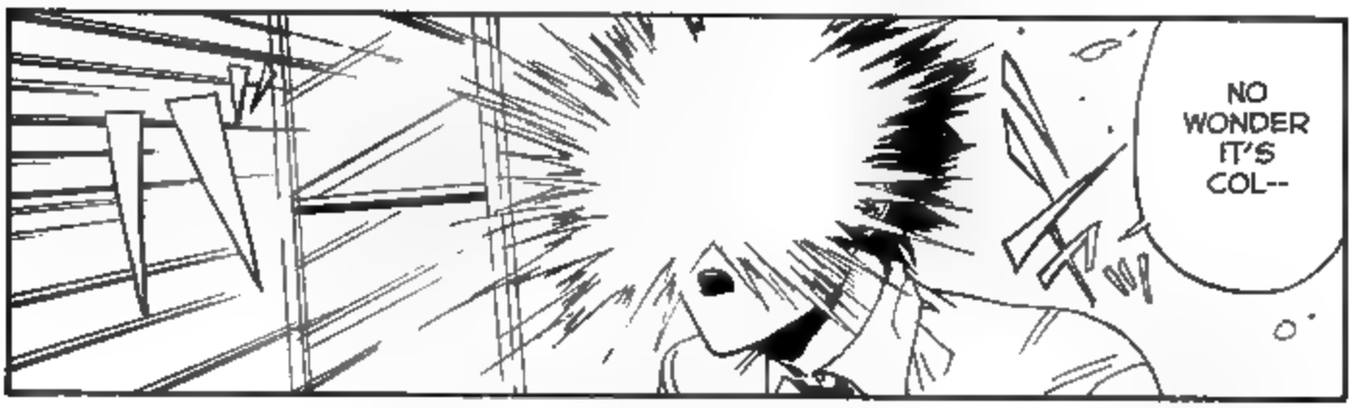
...?
SOMETHING HIT THE WINDOW?

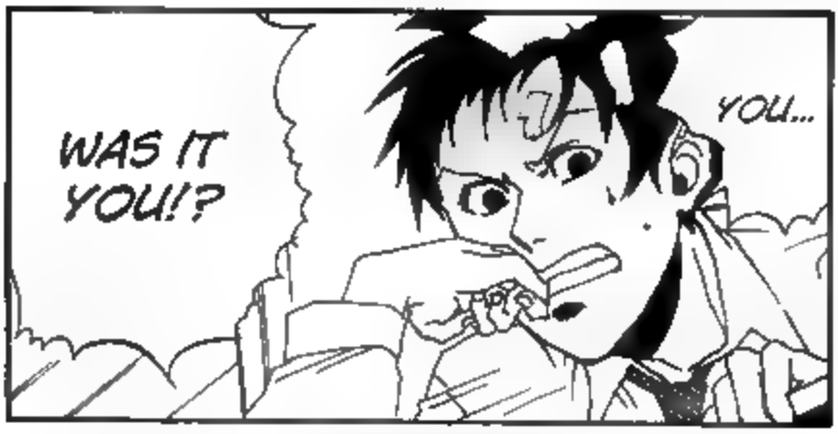

WHO...

WHO'S THIS?
PRANKSTERS WHO THROW THINGS AT WINDOWS...

WOW!
LOOK AT THE HEAD OF THE SNOWMAN! CAN YOU GUESS WHOM IT RESEMBLES?
WHITEY, WHO USUALLY MOVES ONLY ON WHITE LINES. TODAY HE CAN RUN ANYWHERE FREELY.
IRON BROTHERS WEARING WINTER CLOTHES.
ARAKAWA-UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

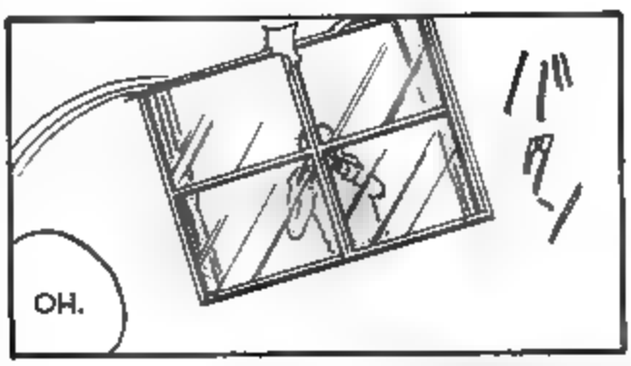
Chapter 22 Snow-covered Nino





COME DOWN HERE, TOO!

I JUST WANT TO CONFIRM ONE THING.
YOU'RE UNUSUALLY OBEDIENT.
CHIEF.


OH.

DID YOU FEEL LIKE COMING HERE, RECRUIT?

I'VE JUST BECOME FAT!
HOW MANY COSTUMES ARE YOU WEARING TODAY?
IT'S STYLISH...
DID YOU COME HERE JUST TO SAY THIS?
HOW ABOUT WEARING A TURTLENECK BELOW?
DID YOU COVER THE NAKED AREA ON YOUR NECK WITH THIS MUFFLER?
LOOK CLOSER, AND YOU'LL UNDER-STAND.
HOW DOES WEARING THIS HAT MAKE YOU WARMER?
MORE-OVER, STAR!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE NEVER SEEN RICK IN THESE CLOTHES, EXCEPT THE Y-SHIRT.
KAPPA ISN'T AN EXCEPTION.
IN WINTER, ANIMALS STORE SOME FAT INSIDE.
Okay, let's leave this question aside.

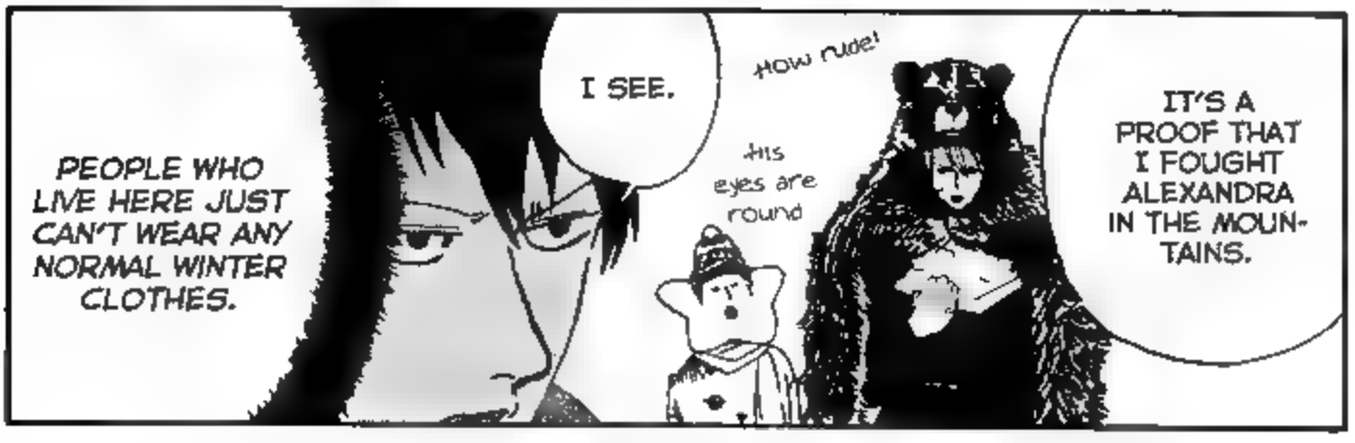
IT PROTECTS ME FROM COLD PERFECTLY.
IT'S MADE FROM CASHMERE!

THAT...

RECRUIT?
DON'T SHOUT AT ME.

!!
That's a bear!!

MOREOVER, I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT FROM SOMEONE WEARING THIS COSTUME.
DON'T CARRY THAT THING!
I NEARLY SHOT YOU THINKING YOU'RE A POACHER.


PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE JUST CAN'T WEAR ANY NORMAL WINTER CLOTHES.
I SEE.
How rude!
this eyes are round
IT'S A PROOF THAT I FOUGHT ALEXANDRA IN THE MOUNTAINS.

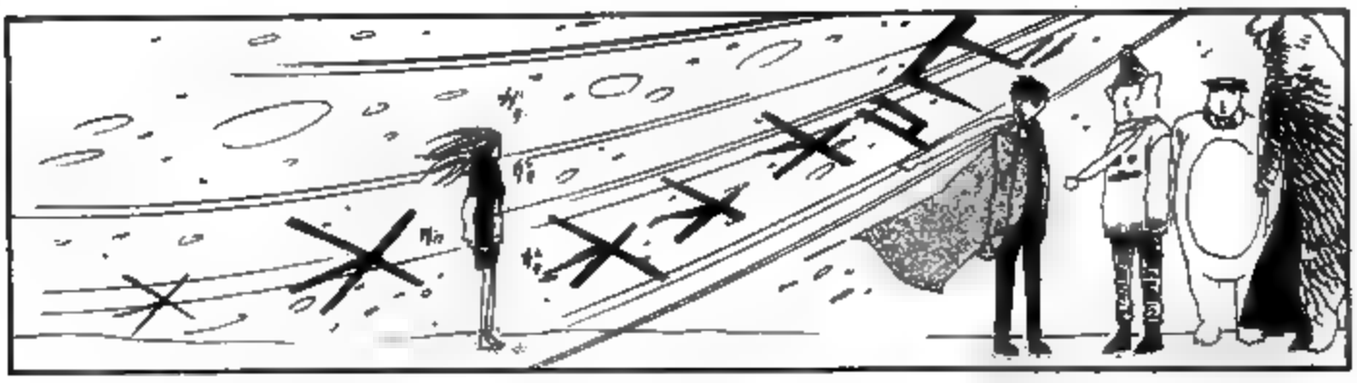
I HAVE NEVER SEEN HER IN ANYTHING EXCEPT THAT JERSEY
I WONDER WHAT SHE IS WEARING

AREN'T YOU WITH NINO TODAY?
YES, I HAVEN'T SEEN HER TODAY YET.

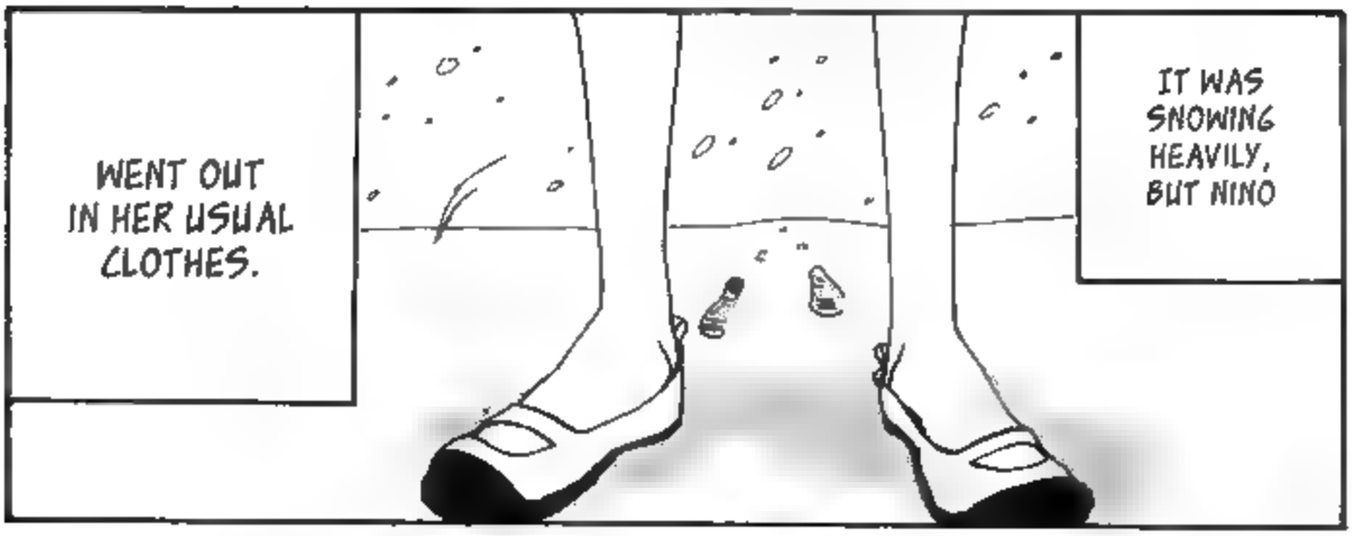
NINO!
GOOD MORNING!

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO T
RICK!

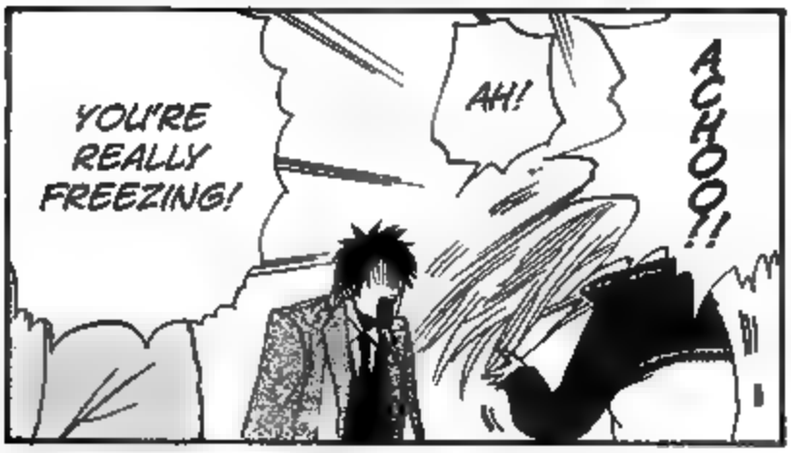
Morning.



I THOUGHT THAT SHE'D BE COLD.
It's wonderful that Nino doesn't change, but...


IT WAS SNOWING HEAVILY, BUT NINO
WENT OUT IN HER USUAL CLOTHES.

But when it was snowing, even he was told to wear a coat!!
ONE OF MY CLASSMATES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL USED TO GO OUT WEARING SHORTS.

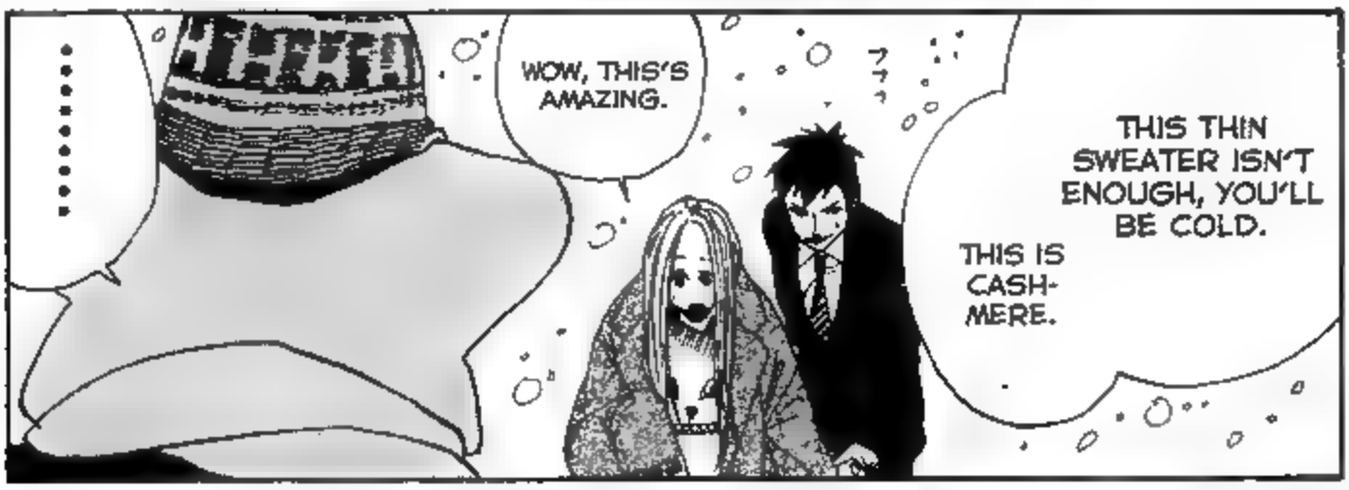

YOU'RE REALLY FREEZING!
AH!
ACHOO!!

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO PUT ON?
Newspaper.
That's just paper!

NINO.
WHY DO YOU...

ED NOTE: AH, THIS GUY'S AN IDI: T

WOW.
NINO, PUT THIS ON, TOO.


WOW, THIS'S AMAZING.
THIS THIN SWEATER ISN'T ENOUGH, YOU'LL BE COLD.
THIS IS CASH-MERE.

OH?
NINO, YOU SHOULDN'T LEAVE YOUR HEAD IN THE COLD.
NA--!

HMM..

LEAVE IT.
H-HEY!
ISN'T YOUR NECK COLD?
WHAT!?

HA HA HA HA HA !!
IF IT'S FOR NINO, I CAN TAKE ANYTHING OFF!
YOU SHOULD PUT SOMETHING ON YOUR FEET, TOO, NINO.
I CAN GIVE IT TO YOU, I'LL BE OKAY.

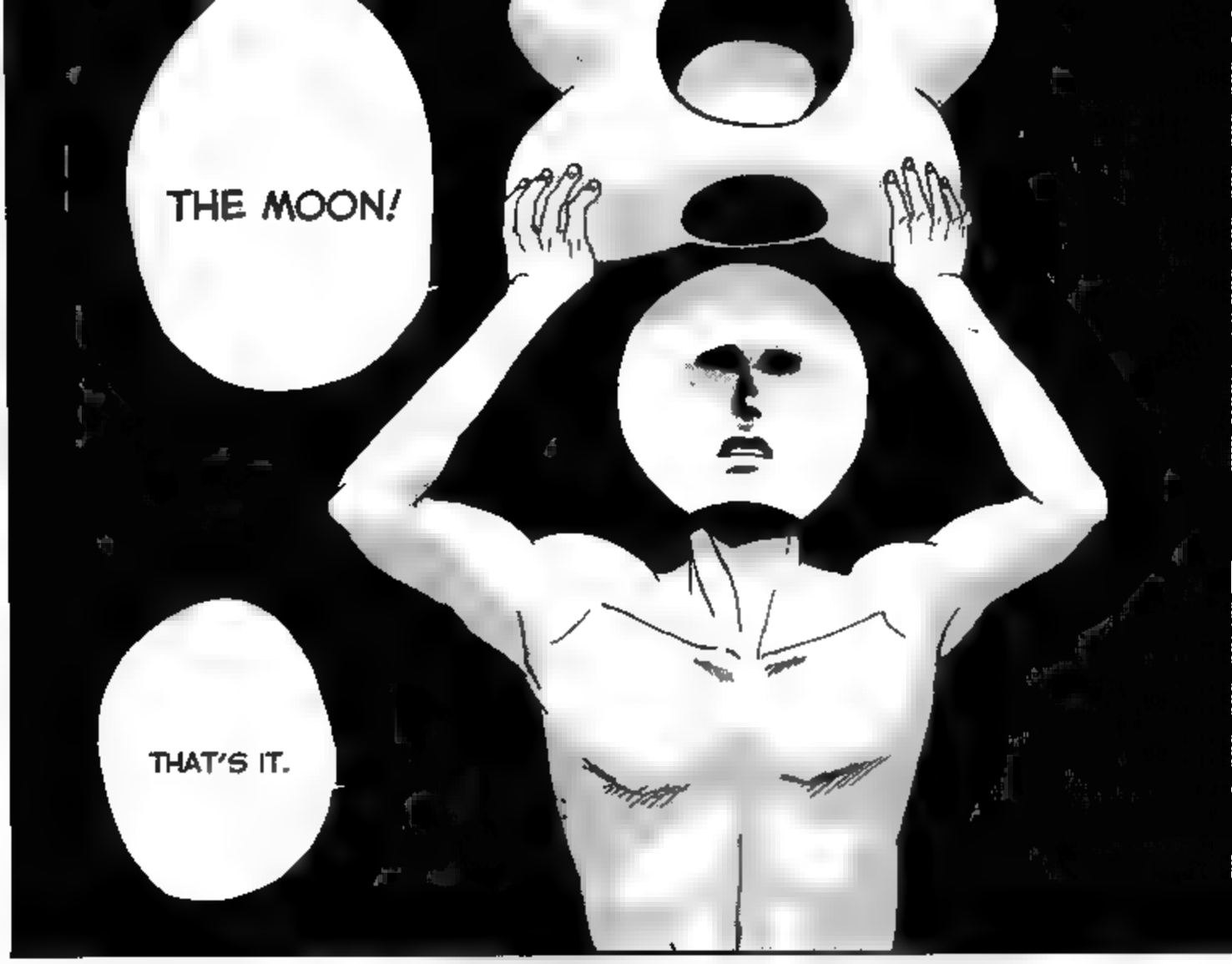
WILL YOU DRINK SOME COCOA, NINO?
YES.
WELL.
…?
あはは

A draw?
……
Of course not I've won!
Well, undressing even more would be a crime, so forgive me
Let's call it a draw
Hmm

I THINK YOU HAVE SOMETHING ELSE YOU CAN TAKE OFF!
I MAY HAVE ONLY MY LAST FORTRESS LEFT, BUT...
!?
FOR NINO!
OF MY FEEL-INGS...
MY HEAD IS FREEZ-ING...
THIS IS THE LEVEL...
I'VE WON!

THIS WAY...
HE CAN TAKE OFF NEITHER HIS MASK, NOR HIS UNDERWEAR.
I UNDER-STAND.
HE WON'T BE ABLE TO HARASS ME ANY MORE.
!?
EVERYONE, LOOK AT ME.
IT'S FINALLY THE TIME TO SHOW MY TRUE AP-PEARANCE.

Recruit, look closely. Do you know it?
WHAT? WHAT?
Are you serious, Starhead?
I'M SOMETHING ELSE.
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT A STAR AT ALL.
SHUT UP, RECRUIT!
I'M OKAY WITH ADMITTING YOUR VICTORY!
I DON'T WANT TO CONTINUE THIS QUARREL!
Stop!
WHAT SHOULD I DO, I DIDN'T PLAN TO TAKE IT THIS FAR.
Wasn't it your principle!?
!!!
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT A STAR. I'M JUST...


THE MOON!
THAT'S IT.

THAT WAS QUITE A REV-ELATION!
YOU WERE A SATEL-LITE.
WOW!
SO YOU WEREN'T A STAR?

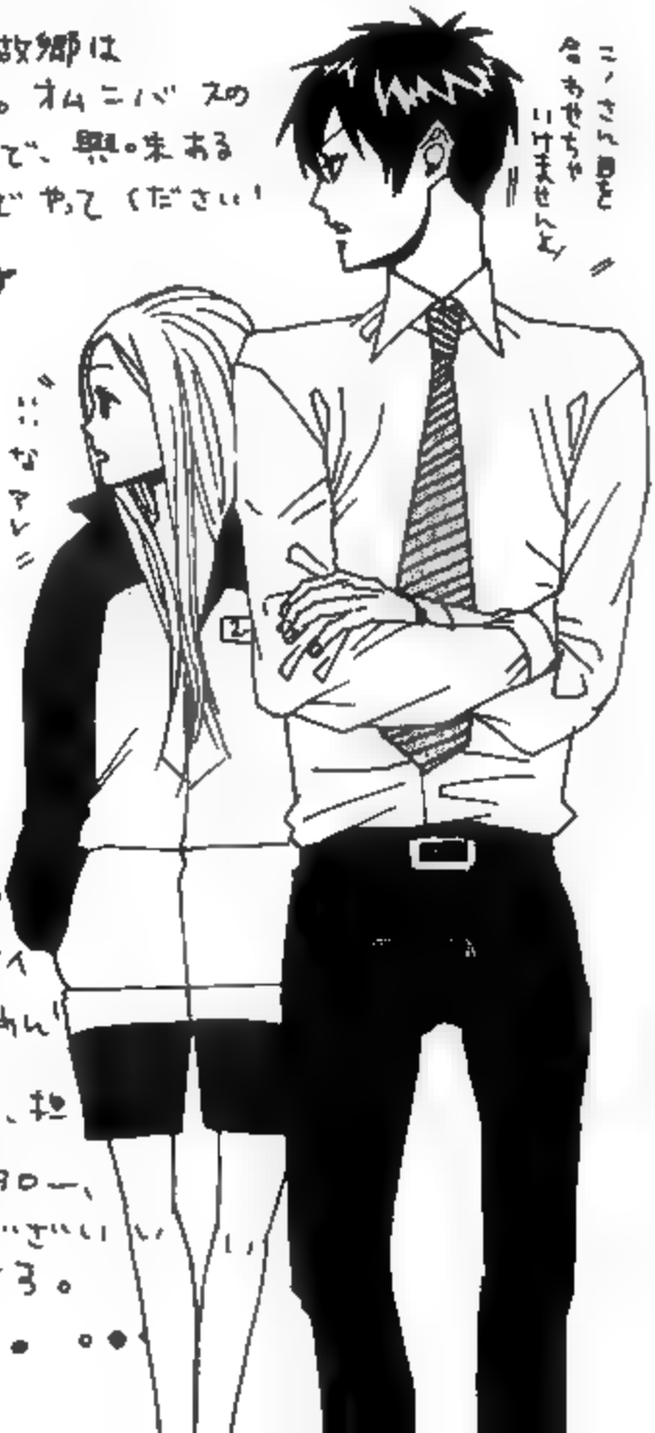
SOMEHOW, I FELT DIS-GUSTED.
I don't accept it!
WELL, RECRUIT, IT'S MY VICTORY, RIGHT?
荒川アンダーザブリッジ1 おわり

あとがき

『荒川アンダーザブリッジ』1巻をお買い上げくださって、どうもありがとうございます！
個人的には、描いていてとっても楽しく、大好きなマンガです。ここまで読んでくださった皆様にも、少しでも楽しんで頂けていたら幸いです。それでは、又2巻でお会いできますように！　2005.6.9. 中村光

information

実は●のキャラクターの生まれ故郷はGwCの『中村工房』①～③です。オムニバスの短編なので、興味ある方はぜひ読んでやってください！



Special thanks!

タタ太 直美ちゃん、ネクタイにびっしり字とかかかせてごめん！
かまってくれるお友達、家族、担当さん、タレタマ ミーコ リュータロー、いつも本当にありがとうございます！
まだ！これからもよろしくです。

ヤングガンガンコミックス

YG COMICS

荒川アンダーザブリッジ

1

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無断転載　上演・上映・放送を禁じます。
乱丁・落丁本はお取り替えいたします。
定価は表紙カバーに表示してあります。

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Chapter X
Distance
IF THERE IS A CREATOR,
HE SURELY MADE THIS PLANET TOO LARGE.

BECAUSE OF THIS
LITLE COWARD HUMANS HAVE A TROUBLE.
WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO MEASURE THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US.
THERE ARE 6 BILLION OF HUMANS ON THE EARTH, BUT...

BECAUSE THE PLANET
IS TOO LARGE,
THEY ARE
ALL ALONE.

THEY ARE ALL DESPERATELY LOOKING FOR
THE ONE WITH WHOM THEY DON'T NEED ANY DISTANCE.
THE BEST LAUGHS AND TEARS FOR YOU!
ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE
荒川アンダーザブリッジ

小さいとき、学校の帰りによく川原に降りて遊びました。
橋の下は、水面で反射した光のせいで意外と明るいのです。
昔から橋の下という場所が大好きで、
橋の下に住むというのは私の小さい頃の夢の一つだったのです。
それが今回、作品という形である意味かなりました。
ありがとう荒川アンダーザブリッジ。
そして何より、この本を買ってくださった貴方に、
暑苦しい感謝の念を送ります。

中村光

荒川アンダーザブリッジ

ARAKAWA UNDER THE BRIDGE

1

中村光

Hikaru Nakamura

YG COMICS ヤングガンガン

荒川アンダーザブリッジ 1 中村光 SQ

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SQUARE ENIX.

「私に恋をさせてくれないか？」

舞台は荒川河川敷。
そこで始まる恋物語。
勝ち組エリートの青年リクと
ホームレスの美少女ニノ。
二人の不思議な同棲が始まります。
これは喜劇か？それとも…？
現代日本に様々な議論を巻き起こす、
話題の新感覚ストーリー。
貴方はどう感じますか？

YG COMICS ヤングガンガン
YGCは毎月25日発売!!

既刊好評発売中!!

黒神	①	原作:イム・ダジョン 作画:パク・ソンウ
すももももも～地上最強のヨメ～	①	大高 忍
少年探偵 犬神ゲル	①	ゴツボ☆マサル
セキレイ	①	極楽院櫻子
戦線スパイクヒルズ	①	原作:原田宗典 漫画:井田ヒロト
ドラゴンクエスト列伝 ロトの紋章～紋章を継ぐ者達へ～	①	作画:藤原カムイ 脚本:映画 巡 監修:堀井雄二
ドラゴンクエスト列伝 ロトの紋章 Returns		作画:藤原カムイ 脚本:小柳順治 設定:川又千秋
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Übel Blatt	①	塩野干支郎次
荒川アンダー ザ ブリッジ	①	中村 光
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市ノ宮家の ネクタイ

手縫いだ
そうです。
職人さんが
かわいそうです。

ミスターの　クッキー

手作りで、かなり
おいしいらしい
です。

ものすごい握力で生地を
こねるから だと思います。

SQUARE ENIX.